



## THE SPRING VOTE.

**Mighty Increase of the Socialist Army at our Polls.**

**TWO SOCIALIST ALDERMEN IN WISCONSIN.**

**CHEERS FROM WEST AND EAST**

The Socialists of Rhode Island Double Last Year's Vote—Municipal Contests in Detroit, Mich., Cleveland and Dayton, O., Chicago and East St. Louis, Ill., Davenport, Iowa, and Towns in New Jersey—Everywhere a Marked Accretion is Recorded to the Socialist Forces.

This spring the party has tried conclusions with the capitalist foes in the State election of Rhode Island, and in municipal elections in several other States. The result everywhere is most encouraging.

The returns from  
**RHODE ISLAND**

are as follows:  
PROVIDENCE, April 10.—The Socialist Labor party of this State more than tripled last Tuesday its vote of last November. Last November Matchett polled 558 votes; this year one gubernatorial candidate, Franklin S. Burton, polled 1,442. The following is the vote by towns:

Barrington	1
Bristol	5
Burrillville	46
Cen. Falls	105
Charleston	10
Coventry	7
Cranston	14
Cumberland	34
E. Greenwich	6
E. Prov.	31
Exeter	2
Foster	2
Gloucester	4
Hopkinton	1
Jamestown	80
Johnston	26
Lincoln	1
L. Compton	1
Middletown	50
Newport	50
N. Kingston	14
N. Providence	14
N. Smithfield	6
Pawtucket	223
Portsmouth	533
Providence	1
Richmond	4
Saltwater	3
Smithfield	13
S. Kingston	2
Tiverton	26
Warren	32
Warwick	3
Westerly	3
W. Greenwich	37
Woonsocket	1,442

**IN ILLINOIS**

municipal Socialist tickets were set up at Chicago and East St. Louis. In both cases the growth is perceptible. In Chicago the comrades had to contend against one of those insidious stampedes that are the unerring signs of popular dissatisfaction, and that needs but proper guidance to crystallize into effective revolution. In East St. Louis the effect was felt of the healthy work now done across the river by the comrades in St. Louis, who, themselves, having been tricked out of their place on the official ballot by the capitalist politicians, as was tried in Newark, N. J., were virtually knocked out of the fight despite the fact that they had collected over 1,000 signatures for their nomination lists. The below dispatches give details:

CHICAGO, April 12.—The crazy municipal turnover of last Tuesday did not carry the Socialists of this city off their feet; on the contrary, they came out decidedly stronger than they did last November: last Tuesday the Mayorally candidate, John Glembeck, polled 1,226 votes; that is to say, a larger vote than our ticket got last year over the whole State.

The vote of our city candidates was as follows:  
Peplin, for City Clerk, 1,344.  
Kalbitz, for City Treasurer (incomplete), 1,435.  
Weaver, for City Attorney (incomplete), 1,577.  
Besides this the ward candidates all

received a larger vote than was polled for Socialism last year.

EAST ST. LOUIS, April 7.—Our vote here yesterday was 50 for Mayor, and increased down the ticket as the offices became less important, until it reached 82 for constable. Last year Matchett, for President, polled 15 votes here. Our vote may be taken as the pure stuff. The A. P. A. tried to bulldoze us, and they threatened to wipe us out this year, but, instead, they have been wiped out. They tried hard to do us up, but we got a good foothold anyhow.

From

### IOWA.

Where a Socialist ticket was set up in Davenport, this cheering news comes:

DAVENPORT, April 10.—The Socialist poll in this city has increased since last fall nearly 300 per cent. For Matchett 110 votes were cast in November. At last Tuesday's election our municipal ticket received a vote that ranged from 270 to over 300. This is the very largest vote we ever cast here. There is still one ward to hear from. Our vote is about 4 per cent. of the total poll. This entitles the party to a place on the official ticket as a regularly recognized party; it saves us the necessity of collecting signatures for our ticket. The returns justify the expectation of a mighty vote next November. To the Socialists of the East we Western Socialists send a hearty greeting from the "backwoods of the West."

Likewise from

### MICHIGAN

Good news is sent to the comrades. The party set up its municipal ticket in Detroit. It thus stepped up boldly against Potato Patch Pingree's fake reform movement. As will appear from the below telegram, our vote went up and our agitation clarified the political atmosphere:

DETROIT, April 7.—In the special election for Mayor in this city our candidate, M. Meyer, received 377 votes, against 208 cast for Kreighoff in 1895 for same office. Pingree feels dumfounded.

Not less glad some, and even more so, are the returns from

### OHIO.

CLEVELAND, O., April 8.—Cleveland comrades have made a good start upward. Last fall 434 votes were cast in this county. Yesterday 498 votes for Larsen for Mayor were polled in this city alone. The school ticket runs far over a thousand. While the Socialists are greatly pleased at their fine increase, the Populists, who fought a "non-partisan silver campaign," are greatly depressed. Although they had the most popular man in their party up, and were supported by prominent Democrats and Republicans and a daily paper, they only polled 3,109 votes. They expected at least 5,000, and double that amount was hoped for. It means the utter disintegration of Populism in this town. Cleveland Socialists are full of fight and all right.

CINCINNATI, April 13.—We had here a fine municipal vote:

For Mayor—E. Jacobs, 250.  
For Police Judge—Pandorf, 278.  
For Police Clerk—Henry J. Pool, 303.  
For Treasurer—Emil Schulz, 263.  
For Justice of the Peace—John Moll, 264.

DAYTON, O.—The Socialist Labor party went this year into the municipal fight, and came out three times as strong as it did last November. We polled last Tuesday 278 votes; last November we had 86.

Finally, from the municipal fields of

### NEW JERSEY

the following Socialist cheers are sent out:

PATERSON, April 14.—We have held our own despite the land slide.

ELIZABETH, April 14.—John P. Weigel polls 116 votes; this is an increase.

NEWARK, April 14.—Our returns for the elections held yesterday are still very incomplete. From partial returns it is certain that we have made progress.

Best of all is the news from

### WISCONSIN.

SHEBOYGAN, April 12.—We elected our Alderman, Van Akeren, in the 5th Ward by an overwhelming majority.

He polled 178 votes, against 89 for the Republican, and 72 for the Democratic candidate.

The rest of the ticket is as follows:

For Mayor—John G. Riedel, 211.  
For City Clerk—George Schnor, 175.  
For Treasurer—Gustav Bairow, 169.  
For Comptroller—Charles Brickner, 151.  
For Assessor—Paul Reuther, 184.

WAUSAU, Wis., April 13.—Julius Boblenz, a member of the Socialist Labor party, was elected to-day to the Board of Aldermen. There is no Section of the S. L. P. in this city. But a few Socialist workmen nominated Boblenz, and he received more votes than either of his two adversaries.

Comrade Harry Carless' Tour in the State.

April	16	East Syracuse.
	17	Auburn.
	18	Rochester.
	19	Lockport.
	20, 21	Buffalo.
	22	Tonawanda.
	23	Hornellville.
	24, 25	Elmira.
	26, 27, 28	Binghamton.
	29	Oneonta.

For an Italian Paper.

All comrades and sympathizers who realize the importance of upholding a Socialist paper in the Italian language in this country are requested to send contributions and subscriptions to Comrade C. F. Garzone, 14 Varick place, New York City. Send at least a nickel. "Il Proletario" needs assistance. To discontinue its valuable work would be a serious setback to the movement among the Italian wage earners.

## THE ITALIAN ELECTION.

**Increase of Votes and of Seats in the Parliament.**

In the Last Parliament the Socialists held Nine Seats, in the Next One they Will Hold Fifteen, With Possibly a Few More, of Whom Two are Probable—Two Years ago the Socialist Poll was 57,000 Strong This Year it is Over 98,000—The Italian Situation—Rising Spirit of Socialism.

The result of last month's general election in Italy for members of Parliament is now substantially in. It affords the following comparisons.

At the last general election, held in 1895, the poll of the Italian Socialist Labor party was 57,000; last month it was 98,419—a net increase of over 41,000, notwithstanding the arbitrary and wholesale disfranchisements of workmen voters.

In the last Parliament, 9 Socialist delegates held seats. In the next Parliament there will be at least 15—a gain of 6 seats, in the teeth of Premier Rudinis pledge to the Italian bourgeoisie that not one single Socialist deputy would be returned. The below list gives the names of the fifteen elected comrades, together with the places:

Gregorio Agnini (Mirandola).  
Nicola Badaloni (Bardia Polesine).  
Agostino Berenini (Borgo S. Donnino).  
Alfredo Bertesi (Carpi).  
Leonida Bissolati (Pescarolo).  
Andrea Costa (Budrio).  
Erriro De Marinis (Salerno).  
Enrico Ferri (Gonzaga).  
Girolamo Gatti (Ostiglia).  
Oddino Morgari (Turin ID).  
Quirino Nofri (Turin IV).  
Giuseppe Pescetti (Florence III).  
Camille Rampollini (Reggio Emilia).  
Adelmo Sichel (Guastalla).  
Filippo Turati (Milan V).

But the elections are not yet completed; in several places, supplementary elections are to be held; in seven of these the Socialist candidates are entitled to re-enter the lists. It is confidently expected that two of them—Hector Cicotti, of the 5th District of Milan, and Guido Podrecca, of Albany Laziale—will triumph; of the remaining five, several have a fighting chance. Whether any of the seven wins or not their aggregate poll will raise the Socialist vote of Italy to about 100,000. Considering the savage manner in which workmen voters were stricken off registry, the present militant Socialist male population of Italy may be estimated at 300,000 at least—an ominously large figure for an organized revolutionary party, considering that the total voting population of the kingdom is not quite 2,000,000. No wonder the Italian alliance of Crown and Capital feels uneasy when it ponders that, already, out of every 6 male Italians of voting age 1 is a Socialist.

The Italian working class merits the plaudits of the class-conscious American proletariat.

### "CONTENTMENT."

It is to be Created on the Ostrich Plan of Hiding his Head.

DE SOTO, Kan., April 12.—In a certain portion of the region known as "the wild and woolly west" there is an organization called "Federation of Women's Clubs." At a recent session of a local club, after the regular programme was run off, the State organizer, who was present, addressed the ladies assembled somewhat as follows:

"There is a great deal of unrest in the land. I see it cropping out in the several local clubs I visit. Many fear and predict that we are on the eve of startling events—even revolutionary in character. But this will all wear away as business revives. The trouble with most of these people is that they were not properly brought up. If the proper spirit of CONTENTMENT were duly inculcated in the masses during childhood, we should hear less about revolution, etc. In the meantime the most important and patriotic service that these women's clubs can render is to cultivate a feeling of CONTENTMENT. Don't agitate or countenance subjects that lean that way. Now, one of the nicest things you can occupy your attention with is getting up a series of social entertainments. For instance, you could cut a lot of nice pictures out of your magazines and paste them on cardboard, hang them around on the walls, and, as your guests come in, have them guess what the pictures refer to; or, let each woman represent a book by fastening on her person pictures or symbols suggestive of the title of the book chosen, which the others are to guess," etc., etc. Half a dozen other and similar devices for the intellectual, moral and physical development of the modern woman were suggested, and all to the end that "a feeling of contentment be engendered, and the country thus saved again, six months after the patriots 'saved' it, who last November voted for 'sound money and protection.'"

The conclusion of this advisory address was that all the members of the club should attend and take part in the summer State Chatauqua meeting, "for the church and the clubs," she assured them, "were going hand in hand in the work of charity and patriotism."

Truly, "whom the gods would destroy they first make blind."

Now, what is the line of work or recreation of these Chatauqua assemblies? Mythology, Sanscrit, Pali, Confucius, Zoroaster, anything, everything to turn attention from the living vital issues of the NOW.

T. E. MILLER.

## THE BURDEN IRON CO.

**Remarkable Testimony Furnished by its Discharged Employees.**

A Workingman Inventor Robbed of his Patent—The Invention Becomes a Means of Displacing Labor and Throwing the other Workers into Poverty—Ruthless Reductions of Wages—Employees Taxed for Boss' Presents to his Vanderbilt Bride—A Dastardly Parson.

GLOVERSVILLE, N. Y., April 9.—Upon my arrival in West Troy the following facts, tending to produce a healthy soil for the planting of the seed of Socialism, were related to me by several discharged employees of the Burden Iron Company. This company has one of, if not the largest plants in the country for making horse shoes. It is located in that part of Troy known as the "Iron Works." The founder of the firm, Henry Burden, commenced early in the fifties to manufacture horse shoes with machines in a small factory at Woodside. These machines, with a few modifications and improvements, tending to perfect the shoe, were in use at the present plant until three years ago. They had been gradually superseded by the "James A. Burden Patent Horse Shoe Machine." Although this machine bears the Burden name, it was invented by one Turner, a foreman of machinists employed by the firm, and who has since been discharged. The new machine is now in general use. With the usual result. A conservative estimate places the number of displaced workers at not less than 700. The wages of those who have been kept at work have been reduced considerably. The firm were pitiless in the discharge of its old hands. Considerations of long service or humanity were absolutely lacking. Men with large families, and who had been in the employ of the firm 15 to 20 years, were quietly told their services were no longer required, and were thus ruthlessly driven to swell the army of unemployed. Any of the present employees who object to having their last drop of blood squeezed out of them are quickly told their services are no longer needed.

Much of the grit and resistance was taken out of these men some years ago when, after a strike of eleven months, they were compelled to submit to the bosses' terms. The present machine makes a successful strike an impossibility. The men dare not even protest. Their dependence is abject.

Prior to the introduction of this new machine the firm was paying what is called fair wages, and on the whole the workers felt quite satisfied, as the following will show.

When James A. Burden returned from Europe some time ago, where he had been luxuriating for a few months, the workmen were invited, through a benevolent society, composed of employees, to take part in a demonstration at his Woodside home in honor of his safe return. The juiciest of the cattle responded to the invitation. Mr. Burden made a nice speech to them, in the course of which he told them how much he loved his workmen. He did not say he loved them because he could milk them well. Oh, no! On the contrary, he told them to beware of Socialism. He undoubtedly thought that if they listened to the Socialists they might become aware of the fact that Mr. Burden, like all capitalists, looks upon the wage workers as so much cattle to be milked, fleeced and skinned.

Not long ago this man's son, James A. Jr., married a Miss Sloane, of the Vanderbilt tribe of leeches. A supper was given to the employees in honor of the possibility that he would bestow some more Burden brats for them to feed, clothe and house. The supper fell somewhat flat as the marriage had been preceded by two wage reductions, simply as an extra token of the capitalist's love for labor. The men felt that they were taxed to enable Burden to make presents to this bride.

Furthermore, the employees were last Thanksgiving Day treated to an elegant sermon in a church of the locality, delivered by the "Rev." Arthur H. Allen, pastor of the Woodside church, which is supported and regularly attended by the Burden family whenever they condescend to live there. This "Rev.," whose wages are \$7 a day, who wears the only plug hat in the locality, who leaves his flock to the devil when he takes his four weeks' summer vacation, and who allows Burden's money to cause a film to obscure his vision so that he cannot read the text in the New Testament, "If any will not work, neither shall he eat," said that now the country had been saved by the election of Major McKinley. It was time for everyone to move from Grumbling street into Thanksgiving avenue. Well said, thou faithful lickspitter, of thy master Capital! But the Burden Iron Company employees will not move from Grumbling Street, neither will the rest of our wage workers, because so long as machinery is in the hands of the capitalist class it is used to degrade, bully and starve the workers, and so cause the residents of Grumbling street to increase. Increase they must and will until they vote for the S. L. P. It is only the success of that working class political party that will increase the residents of Thanksgiving avenue, because then science and invention will be used to relieve man of physical toil without making him a tramp and pauper.

Here is an instance of the power of the "pure and simple" trades union: Mr. Burden ordered one H. B. Thomas, contractor, keg manufacturer, to reduce his men's wages from \$2.75 a day to \$1.50 so that the Burden Iron Company may be supplied with cheaper kegs. The workmen refused to accept the reduction, and, backed by the International Coopers' Union, they stood firm, as advised by their leaders. Mr. Burden promptly engaged a new contractor with coopers from Allentown, Pa. Thus, with one swing of the leg he kicked a "pure and simple" trades union bag and baggage out of existence. Although we have no horses among the working class, we have a few asses, and maybe we shall hear the fakirs' frantic appeal to boycott all scab goods, and especially the "Burden Asses' Shoes." Meanwhile the late members of the busted union are tramping the streets. Exploiting the crime of ignorantly fighting the capitalist where he is strong, to wit, in the shop only, and with strike only, and shaking hands with this same capitalist when he is weak, to wit, on Election Day.

Much more could be said of the rascality of Troy's capitalists. Especially in the collar and cuff industry, which, if time permits, I will write about next week.

H. CARLESS.

### SOME MORE ON INDIA.

The Hypocrisy of the Capitalist Class Everywhere.

While the Liberals and Radicals are lashing themselves into a fine feigned fury about Greece and Crete, all these grand humanitarians are quite indifferent to the fate of millions of people whom they are helping to starve to death in India. What loathsome hypocrites they are, to be sure! And the men of God, from Dr. Creighton upwards and downwards, are even more contemptible. For, as week after week passes, the condition of our Indian fellow-subjects, left to the tender mercies of the rollicking Lord George Hamilton, goes from bad to worse. Lord George, by the way, objects to government by newspaper. It would, indeed, be an abominable rule, guided, as it always is, solely by cash interests. But how about a Secretary of State who takes \$5,000 a year out of the starvelings of India for deliberately misrepresenting the truth whenever he speaks in public about them? Isn't that a worse form of government and a greater injury still? As to this sham Mansion House Fund charity, too. Let our readers mark that the money is used to BUY GOVERNMENT BILLS ON CALCUTTA AND BOMBAY. This means that the pitiful \$400,000 subscribed by those who proposed to extort \$17,000,000 for direct government purposes out of India in this awful famine year will actually reduce the robbery to the sum of \$16,600,000! What do you think of that for mean pretence? It is worthy of those who resort to every possible subterfuge to keep back the truth from the masses of Englishmen. We say again, that the millions who at this moment are being done to death by starvation in India are murdered by Lord George Hamilton and the British government, as much as if they were deliberately blown from guns by Christian British troops. We say more. If ever rebellion was justified in history—that rebellion is justified in India to-day. We tell the natives of India plainly—and we are glad to see from their papers that they follow our agitation closely—they have nothing whatever to hope from the governing classes or the House of Commons here. They will be starved and murdered to the end if they rely upon England as she is to-day. They must trust to themselves, and we will help them as far as we possibly can.—London "Justice."

The walls of a large New York restaurant, owned by a sanctimonious capitalist, are plastered over with quotations from the Bible, besides some other legends.

One of the biblical quotations runs thus:

"Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord."

And right below it is a card-board bearing the following admonition:

"Keep your eye on your hat and coat."

Is not this capitalist system truly a breeder of hypocrisy, and its pillars filthy Pharisees?

The report that Terrence V. Powderly is to receive from McKinley the appointment of Commissioner of Immigration in Maryland has caused some astonishment. Those who are astonished base their astonishment upon the fact that Mr. Powderly is to-day thoroughly down in the labor movement. They ask, What good can Powderly now do McKinley; he has no influence in the labor movement; he no longer has any body to deliver; what is there left in him to buy?

This question is an insult to the capitalist class. With all its defects, that class has some virtues. Among these is the virtue of taking care of their played-out lackeys, and not letting them die of hunger outright. Mr. Powderly, if appointed, is not to be paid for what he will do, but for what he has done.

It is upon that prospect that the Gompers-Sovereign wing of the labor fakirs are banking for an old age in which drinks will not be too rare visitors.

## MIDDLE CLASS FIGHTS.

**Valuable Picture Drawn by Chicago Small Shopkeepers.**

A Conference Held by Small Retailers to Draw up a Bill for the Legislature to Make the Department Stores an Impossibility Breaks up by Going to Smash Against the Fact that the Small Man and the Big Man are Both Branches of the Tree of Capital and belong together.

Professional and magazine article writers have betrayed a very dull scent of late in not exploiting the wrangle that is going on in Chicago among small store keepers. These writers have been miffing an A No. 1 opportunity for the display of the usual flippantly critical articles they love to write on the several phases of the social question. In this matter our professional pundits also have been negligent.

The mammoth department stores of Chicago have done more for civilization than simply to demonstrate the economies that are possible under concentrated efforts, and thereby to bring the social revolution one step nearer. They have also, though indirectly, furnished an illustration of the oneness of class interests.

Owing to the ravages made on the small stores by the large department stores, the latter sought to organize against the "Monster." To do that they had to proceed upon the theory that their interests and those of the "Monster" had nothing in common. This, however, is a grave error of fact. The middle class and the upper capitalist class are hostile classes, true enough, yet they are both shoots of one trunk, the trunk of private ownership. As they both are planted on that principle, they are both capitalist classes. Two important conclusions follow therefrom.

In the first place all organizations of the middle class as such, against the upper capitalist class are insane, being unscientific, and, therefore, can not be perfected. This is the point that was excellently illustrated in the conferences held by the Chicago small store keepers.

They started stating that they were being ground down by the department stores, and they agreed to draft a bill that should prevent such stores from being set up. The trouble then commenced. What are the features of the department store? Large capital, for one. Could a bill be drafted that should forbid large capital from setting up a store? Of course not; none but a lunatic would propose such a thing; furthermore, not one of the small shopkeepers at the conference but was himself anxious to set up a large store; and not one of them but hoped that he would see that day. Was he to legislate against what he himself wished some day to do and thus forestall himself? Surely not. The "large capital" feature of the department store was accordingly left unassailed.

Another feature of the department store is that it combines several lines: it sells dry goods and vegetables, dairy articles and hardware, stationery and liquor. Could a bill be drawn up to prevent this? The conference thought so and shouted, yes. And then greater trouble came. There is not one small store keeper who could get along with a single line of goods as at one time: some join groceries and liquor, others join cigars and stationery, others join stationery and dry goods; and so forth and so on. The one who sold groceries and liquor would under no circumstances want one of his legs, so to speak, to be knocked from under him and insisted that these two are legitimate lines; but the one who joined dry goods and stationery had no interests that way and wanted that dry goods and stationery be declared kindred lines. On the other hand, the small shop keeper who had mainly stationery, and cigars only as a leader, objected furiously against joining dry goods and stationery, he felt that the other fellow would draw his stationery customers away with the dry goods. And so it went on with the result that the conference had to succumb to the law of their class. Being an offshoot of capitalism, the hand of each necessarily had to be raised against all, and the weapon of all being capital the victory must remain with capitalism. The experience of the small Chicago shop keeper's conference proves that the middle class is not a cohesive class on which can be built.

The second conclusion to be drawn is that the middle class can no more be looked to than the upper capitalist class as a source of protection by the proletariat. Throughout the conference the only question was how to get the larger share of the feelings. It was a combined fight of small property-holders and labor-skinners against the large property-holders and against one another.

The working class alone stands upon ground that logically assails its oppressors, it alone proceeds upon principles that can hold it together and bring on victory.

Owing to the large demand there has been for the issues of THE PEOPLE containing the "Lapses" articles, which expose the knavery of the officers and leaders of the International Cigar-makers' Union, and the numerous requests that have come in for their reproduction, the two articles will be republished next week.



## TERMS TO SUBSCRIBERS

Invariably in advance:  
One year..... \$1.00  
Six months..... .60  
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As far as possible, rejected communications  
will be returned if so desired and stamps are  
enclosed.

Entered as second-class matter at the New  
York, N. Y., Post office, on April 6th, 1891.



## SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888 (Presidential)..... 2,068  
In 1890..... 15,331  
In 1892 (Presidential)..... 21,157  
In 1894..... 33,153  
In 1896 (Presidential)..... 36,564

It is better and a deal juster, seeing  
that we are all brothers, united  
by the bonds of blood and of nature  
that property should be shared  
equally by all. If any one wishes  
to appropriate everything to him-  
self, be the sole owner and to ex-  
clude his brothers of a third or even  
a fourth of the wealth, such a man  
is no longer a brother; he is an in-  
human tyrant, a cruel barbarian,  
even a savage beast whose jaws are  
always stretched to devour the food  
that belongs to all.

St. Gregory of Nyssa.

## LET'S UNDERSTAND EACH OTHER.

From Lohn, Tex., we have received  
the following communication, that de-  
serves some attention.

"To the Editor of THE PEOPLE—  
The following is a resolution which was  
adopted at Lohn, Tex., by the Lohn  
People's Party Club:

"RESOLVED, That we, the Populist  
Club of Lohn, Tex., send friendly greet-  
ings to the Socialist Labor party club  
recently organized at San Antonio,  
Tex.

"The preceding is sent to you for pub-  
lication in THE PEOPLE."

It is just because we appreciate the  
good intentions that breathe through  
this resolution, and through the act of  
forwarding it here for publication, that  
we deem the occasion fit for a few plain  
words.

The political arena is not a ball room.  
In a ball room one single couple would  
feel lonesome. It is a feature of the  
ball room that many couples whirl on  
its floor simultaneously, and, what is  
more, in perfect accord. In the ball  
room one common harmonious impulse  
animates the dancers; collisions are not  
looked for but carefully avoided; the  
enjoyment of each is the certain  
measure of the enjoyment of all.

It is just the reverse with the political  
arena, and, when that is not the case, it  
is a certain sign of political stagnation  
and corruption. In epochs of healthy  
political life, a political party has a  
mission to fulfill; something that is in  
force is to be thrown out or upheld;  
something that is not in force is to be  
established or resisted. At such periods  
each political party—be it enlisted in  
behalf of or against the things that be—  
says as clearly as is possible: "None  
other but myself is entitled to the field;  
I am in the field to overthrow all others;  
the simple fact of my existence is a de-  
nial of the right to live of any other."  
The political party that can contem-  
plate with equanimity the existence of  
an adversary, and can exchange kisses  
with it, is not a party built on principle,  
but a party built for political log-roll-  
ing. All political parties of historic  
importance aim at the upholding of an  
existing principle or at the extermina-  
tion of such, and, with such extermina-  
tion, at the establishment of a new.

The days we are living in are the days  
of strong political pulsations. Two  
principles are contending for supremacy  
—The one, now in force, is the prin-  
ciple of the private ownership of the  
things man needs to work with; it is  
the principle that to the robbers belong  
the spoils; it is, in short, the principle  
of wage slavery that condemns the ma-  
jority to arduous toil and privation,  
while a criminal few enjoy luxury in  
idleness. This principle is the principle  
of CAPITAL. The other principle is  
that he who works may live, and he who  
does not shall die the death; it is the  
principle, consequently, that demands  
the public ownership of the means of  
production, without which robbery is  
inevitable; it is the principle of SO-  
CIALISM. The two cannot live to-  
gether. One or the other must bite the  
dust.

In our own country, as in all other  
so-called civilized countries, there is  
only one party that stands squarely and  
uncompromisingly upon the principle of  
Socialism, and that demands the un-  
conditional surrender of CAPITAL. All  
other parties either pointedly up-  
hold capitalism or waver from the  
question. There can be no love lost be-  
tween the Socialist Labor party and  
any other. At great critical epochs, he  
who is not right is wrong; there can be  
no "in between."

It is one of the hardest things to-day  
to get two men who call themselves  
Populists to agree upon a definition of  
the term or the aim of the thing. Recogn-  
izing this, we wish to believe that the  
Lohn, Tex., Populist Club has discov-  
ered how mixed up the crowd is from

ciple for which it wishes to fight is  
straight out Socialism, and that the  
camp it should be in is the camp of the  
S. L. P. We wish, accordingly, to think  
that the greetings it sends are but a  
forerunner of its application for en-  
rollment on the list of our party's or-  
ganization. So interpreting its greet-  
ings, we receive and give them publica-  
tion.

We repeat, these are not the piping  
days of peace, nor is the issue that is up  
one that allows of dalliance. It con-  
cerns the lives of the men and women,  
together with their children, who toil;  
it concerns the existence of the nation;  
it concerns the fate of civilization.

## ALL FUN AND NO TROUBLE.

The capitalist class is getting things  
fixed in such a way that it may illustrate  
Socialist principles more and more  
clearly. That certainly is a commend-  
able spirit.

It first established its stock corpora-  
tions whereby the Socialists could with-  
out difficulty prove that the capitalist  
did no work. Before a concern becomes  
a stock corporation the fact that the  
boss is an idler and parasite does not  
strike the eye with sufficient force.  
Some false appearances are preserved  
that give a color to the false claim that  
the boss does do some work in his fac-  
tory. The stock corporation tears away  
all false appearances on this head. Even  
a blind man can realize that a stock-  
holder in a dozen different concerns  
spread over as many different lines, and  
who does not even know exactly where  
these concerns are situated, is nothing  
but a parasite living on the wealth he  
absorbs without working for.

There still remained a claim set up by  
professorial economists in behalf of the  
capitalist. He had responsibilities, we  
were told. The capitalist courts now  
leave their professorial confrères in the  
cold, and speak the capitalists free of  
even responsibility.

The Courts of Illinois have just de-  
cided that, where a passenger is injured  
on a train his only redress is against  
the employees, not the company.

Free from work, free from responsi-  
bility, our capitalists stand now upon  
the industrial stage of the country and  
plump and plain ask the people:

"Kindly tell us what earthly use there  
is of us?"

So say we, too, and propose to give  
the answer in short order, equally  
plump and plain.

## POLITICAL and ECONOMIC.

It is not for the purpose of crushing  
still more than he now is that we pro-  
pose to pick up ex-Senator Peffer and  
expose him once more to public view by  
quoting from his paper the Topeka,  
Kans., "Advocate." Our purpose is to  
turn Peffer to the most practical and  
valuable use that can be made of him,  
to wit, to illustrate through him the  
utter unreliability of the spokesmen for  
the middle class as instruments for the  
improvement of the condition of the  
working class.

No paper in the country ever was or  
continues to be more malignant towards  
Populism than the New York "Sun."  
In all the fierceness of our attacks  
against Populism in general, and Peffer  
in particular, our arguments were and  
continue such as properly proceed from  
a camp that is conscious of the justice  
of its cause, and consequently, never  
betrays, as the upper capitalist adver-  
saries of Populism do, that viciousness  
and malignity that proceed from and  
are the unerring mark of conscious  
rascality towards former accomplices.  
No line on Populism ever appeared or  
appears now in the "Sun" but bears this  
tell-tale earmark in a more marked  
way than similar arguments do in other  
upper capitalist papers. This notwith-  
standing, the Topeka "Advocate" now  
publishes an advertisement of the  
"Sun."

But this is not all; this may even be  
apologized for on the ground of "busi-  
ness." In addition to the advertisement,  
the "Advocate" contains this editorial  
puff on the "Sun":

"Charles A. Dana's 'Sun' has a wide-  
spread reputation for RELIABLE  
NEWS. A line of ten words, printed in  
every edition and every copy of the  
paper, has for years and years pro-  
claimed this characteristic feature of  
the great journal: 'IF YOU SEE IT IN  
THE SUN, IT'S SO.' In another column  
of the 'Advocate' the reader will find  
the 'Suns' card."

These few lines tell a tale of the thick-  
ness of volumes. The representatives  
of the middle class are for sale, the up-  
per capitalist class may purchase them  
any time it wants. The seemingly re-  
volutionary language held by these  
middle class spokesmen has for its sole  
object to bluff the upper capitalists and  
frighten them into a purchase; and, to  
this end, and this end alone, the middle  
class leaders are profuse in expressions  
of love for the workers and promises of  
relief.

If the symbol of the upper capitalist  
class is the bloody fist of a ruffian, the  
symbol of the middle class politician is  
a dirty dish-cloth.

From neither can the proletariat ex-  
pect any thing but a tanning.

The Spokane, Wash., "Freemans La-  
bor Journal" should promptly remove  
the motto that heads its first page:  
"For the masses against the classes."

more dangerously misleading than it  
would seem at first blush.

Of course, the people who work are  
the large majority, and those who loaf  
are a frail minority; a majority may  
well be designated as the masses, but  
the word "classes" can by no means be  
applicable to a minority. If one chooses  
to designate the overwhelming working  
majority with the term "the Masses,"  
then the minority must be designated  
with the term "the Few." The "Masses"  
are no less a class than the "Few." The  
"Masses" are the proletariat or working  
class; the "Few" are the bourgeoisie or  
capitalist class.

To speak of the one as the "classes"  
and the other as the "masses" is to use  
language that either ignores or denies  
the sociologic fact that modern society  
consists of three classes:

1. The capitalist—the robber and idle  
class;

2. The middle class—a class that  
would like to be idle and to rob as much  
as the upper class, but is kept from its  
ideal because it has not enough capital,  
and is being rapidly expropriated; and

3. The proletariat or working class—  
the class that does all the mental and  
manual work needed for production,  
that produces all the wealth, but is  
robbed of its products because it has  
been robbed of the needed capital to  
produce with.

The social question involves the class  
struggle of these three classes; the solu-  
tion of the social question lies in the  
victory of the working class, because its  
program alone can wipe out class rule  
and exploitation.

He who uses the term "masses against  
classes," ten to one, is ignorant of the  
existence of the modern class struggle;  
and as a result of that, he will, ten to  
one, fall into serious tactical errors.

The social question is a scientific ques-  
tion; accuracy of terminology is essen-  
tial to success.

The Cleveland, O., "Citizen," being  
recently attacked by a Colorado paper  
as a Socialist paper, and, "therefore,"  
as "an enemy of unionism," answers  
with this well aimed blow:

"Socialists who are wage-workers are,  
as a rule, identified with labor organi-  
zations; generally they are the most  
active workers in the ranks, and their  
loyalty to the labor cause cannot be  
honorably questioned. If a poll could  
be taken of all the voters in this coun-  
try, it would be found that the largest  
per cent. of union men in any party is  
in the Socialist Labor party. No one  
acquainted with the labor movement in  
the United States can safely dispute  
that claim, and, therefore, Socialists  
should not be maligned and discredited  
by opponents who ought to be willing  
to be fair and decent.

"Furthermore, Socialists hold that  
the labor unions are class-conscious or-  
ganizations, and that they are formed  
for the purpose of securing to the labor-  
ing class a greater portion of its prod-  
uct. But the unions are handicapped  
by the power of government controlled  
by the capitalist class, aside from the  
fact that the workers are propertyless  
and confronted by concentrated, con-  
scious and autocratic capitalism upon the  
economic fields. The disadvantage un-  
der which labor is placed is enormous,  
and for this reason the Socialist says  
the class-conscious economic movement  
must be accompanied by a class-con-  
scious political movement that will seize  
the various branches of government and  
conduct them in the interest of the  
working people.

"For this laudable ambition Socialists  
are often denounced by the reactionary  
and gompersque conservatives as wild  
theorists, dreamers, etc. But if they  
were not ignoramus they would know  
that in all history the radicals and pro-  
gressivists were likewise condemned and  
reviled, and still great, growing prin-  
ciples could not be crushed out. There-  
fore, the Socialists, understanding the  
historical aspect of society, allied with  
the greatest altruistic movement that  
has ever been given to the world, hurl  
back into the teeth of their detractors  
the charge that they can see no good in  
trade unionism, and declare further that  
they will neither ask or give quarter to  
capitalistic and political scabism even  
though hell freezes over."

The "Shoe & Leather Reporter," or-  
gan of the bosses in the shoe industry,  
is greatly assisting us to show that the  
bosses and the "pure and simple" labor  
leaders are hand in glove, both working  
to the common end of keeping down the  
rank and file of the workers.

The Lynn Lasters' Union was having  
its election for secretary. Comrade Car-  
ter ran on an outspoken Socialist Trade  
& Labor Alliance platform. In its issue  
of last March 25th, the "Shoe & Leather  
Reporter" took sides against Carter. It  
said:

"It will be for the welfare of the city  
of Lynn if this official (Comrade Car-  
ter) is succeeded by a new man March  
30, on which date it is expected that  
the Lasters' Union will elect a secretary  
for another year. No walking delegate  
ever in Lynn has created the same  
amount of trouble as Carter. He is  
very extreme in his opinions and is a  
pronounced Socialist."

The Lynn Lasters' Union did not take  
the bosses' hint, and on the 30th of  
March elected Comrade Carter. In the  
sorrow of his heart, and feeling the New  
Trade Unionist slap in its face, the  
"Shoe & Leather Reporter" speaks of  
Carter's victory in this wise:

"Secretary Carter, of the Lasters' Union,  
was re-elected to that position  
the past week, after a very close con-  
test, defeating his nearest competitor  
by only thirteen votes. Had the two  
forces against Carter combined he would  
have been defeated."

There are still more weepful items in  
the ink-stand of the "Shoe & Leather  
Reporter."

The receipt of a sample copy of this  
paper is an invitation to subscribe.

## A TIP TO PARIAHS.

### Standing Armies and Their Economic Relation to the Working Class.

As a Greenbacker and subsequent  
Populist, I could in those days find no  
language sufficiently strong to express  
my detestation of standing armies in  
general, not only from an altruistic but  
also from an economic standpoint. Of  
late, however, while I still despise the  
spirit that prompts the organization and  
maintenance of standing armies, also  
the demoralizing effect of the war-like  
spirit they engender, I have come to the  
conclusion that, from an economic  
standpoint, the burdens of the proleta-  
rian class are not increased by the  
standing armies of the world, especially  
in countries whose industrial system is  
under the influence and control of the  
capitalist class. My change of opinion  
arises from the fact that, as a member  
of the organizations above mentioned, I  
viewed the industrial question through  
middle class spectacles, while now, as  
a Socialist, I view it through the spec-  
tacles of the proletarian class interests.

As a member of these middle class or-  
ganizations, I judged all questions from  
the effect they had or might have on  
this particular class. To me, at that  
time, this class constituted the bulwark  
of society; indeed, it constituted society  
itself. The universe centered in it, and  
revolved around it. To me it then  
seemed that whatever affected the in-  
terest of this class either favorably or  
unfavorably, affected the whole human  
family favorably or unfavorably—ex-  
cepting the plutocratic class, these hav-  
ing by their greed separated themselves  
from humanity, at least so it seemed to  
me, at that time.

As a result of this system of thought,  
I believed that whatever increased the  
taxes of the people—and, by the  
"people," I meant the middle class—  
without giving in return a just equiv-  
alent, was a detriment and injury to the  
whole people. As standing armies in  
times of peace did this very thing, I  
therefore argued they must of necessity  
be an injury to the whole people. In  
fact every dollar expended for such pur-  
poses seemed to me pure robbery, no  
other term so fittingly described my  
feeling.

I contended that, were the standing  
armies of the world to disband, the men,  
who were being drilled and taught, at  
the expense of the tax-payers, to kill  
and slaughter each other, would then,  
under the regime of peace, become use-  
ful members of society, in fact, would  
be transferred from the armies of de-  
struction into the armies of construc-  
tion, and as a result peace and plenty  
would reign supreme. It did not occur  
to me then that already there were mil-  
lions of men and women outside of  
these armies of destruction who were  
anxious and willing to enlist into the  
army of construction on most any terms  
that would guarantee to them a mere  
subsistence, and that sign boards were  
then sticking up all over the land, and  
all over the world, heralding the fact  
to all seekers after useful employment  
that no more recruits were needed. I  
never thought, were the armies of de-  
struction to disband, but what there  
would be ample opportunity for the men  
composing these armies, to join the ar-  
mies of construction, until I became a  
Socialist, and then it was sometime be-  
fore I came to see that from an economic  
standpoint the armies of the world, no  
matter what their effect upon the  
middle class, did not tend to increase  
the burdens of the proletarian class.

A question by a boy, a short time  
since, as to the economic effect of the  
standing army of Germany upon the  
laboring people of that country, first  
caused me to view these armies from a  
different standpoint. The following are  
the conclusions I came to in regard to  
the economic relation these armies bear  
to the laboring class of all countries  
under the capitalist system:

Labor, being a merchandise under the  
capitalist or wage system, is subject to  
the same law of supply and demand, as  
are all other merchandise under this  
system. Under the operation of this  
law, whenever the supply of any mer-  
chandise exceeds the demand for it, the  
price of that particular merchandise  
tends to fall. As a result of the intro-  
duction of labor-saving machinery, the  
merchandise labor power has been for  
years, as at present, and must continue  
to be in the future—so long as the wage  
system lasts—a drug on the market.  
Hence its selling price is and has been  
tending to the bare cost of producing  
it, namely: a sum that will purchase  
for the laborer a mere subsistence and  
at the same time enable him to bring  
into existence and rear another wage  
slave to take his place, when he has be-  
come unfit to meet the exacting demands  
of his employer, the capitalist.

The millions of idle men and women  
to-day—in this and all other capitalistic  
countries—prove that there are not  
enough jobs to go around and furnishes  
conclusive evidence that, were the  
standing armies of the world to disband  
to-morrow, these men would be simply  
so many new competitors for the situa-  
tions of those who now have employ-  
ment. It is a fact that the labor ques-  
tion proper in this country entered upon  
its present acute stage with the disband-  
ing of the Federal armies in 1866.  
All civilized countries have reached  
that stage in their development where  
the dominant or capitalist class are un-  
able—no matter how philanthropic  
their intentions—to furnish employment  
to the whole proletarian class outside  
the standing armies, to say nothing  
about those belonging to it, were these  
too suddenly thrown on the labor mar-  
ket of the world.

The standing armies and navies be-  
long to the same great class as do the  
police, the executives, the legal fraterni-  
ty, and the household domestics, name-  
ly, to the servant class, all of which live  
as so many parasites of their patron, the  
capitalist class, which in turn flitches all  
from labor.

This servant class is to the capitalist  
class a necessary evil that they would  
gladly dispense with, if they could.  
Were it possible for them to rid them-  
selves of the burdens of these lackies,  
the capitalist, not the laboring class,  
would derive the benefit. This servant  
class—as so many parasites upon the  
capitalist class—are co-consumers of  
the surplus wealth that the capitalists  
have already fleeced from labor, and  
thus aid in keeping down the too rapid  
accumulation of labor's products, and

severity of the "crisis pléthorique," or  
modern industrial panics, and thereby  
tend to give to those who have work  
more constant employment. Were it  
possible for the capitalist class to sub-  
stitute machinery for this servant class,  
as a whole, they would still continue to  
exploit from productive labor all the  
wealth produced by it over and above  
a bare subsistence, and if possible—on  
account of the increased competition en-  
gendered by two or three million men  
thus being thrown onto the labor mar-  
ket of the world—the exploitation would  
be more severe than at present.

While the police of all capitalist coun-  
tries are but so many watch-dogs to  
keep the capitalists from robbing each  
other, and the proletarian class from  
compelling the capitalist class to dis-  
gorge their stolen treasure, the stand-  
ing armies of the world are but enlarged  
editions of this same breed of animals,  
kept and petted by the paid agents of  
capitalism, to wit, the governments of  
the world, to prevent the capitalists of  
one country from being robbed and  
fleeced by those of all other countries;  
and the navies of the world are simply  
huge constabularies for the purpose of  
collecting foreign debts.

So long as Labor is to be robbed it is  
immaterial to the proletarian class who  
has the peaches and cream that is gar-  
nered by their toil; and could the com-  
rades of this country be as successful in  
their propaganda among the military  
forces, as have they been in Belgium,  
France and Germany—where it is said,  
a large percentage of the armies are  
thoroughly inculcated with Socialism—I  
am not so certain, but what it might  
strengthen our cause in this country,  
and at the same time be the means of  
relieving much destitution and misery,  
could at least one million of the unem-  
ployed be transferred to the United  
States regular army, and in this way  
compel capitalism to support in idleness  
out of its stolen treasure those that  
the system, which it maintains, is un-  
able to furnish useful employment to.

I offer this suggestion to the labor  
fakirs as a substitute for their anti-  
emigration laws.

H. S. ALEY, M. D.

Lincoln, Neb.

Captain H. W. Reed, of Georgia, not  
many months ago an enthusiastic mem-  
ber of the Pop. Bryan National Commit-  
tee, has abandoned the noble intention  
of "emancipating the people," and has  
become a gold bug. Whence this trans-  
formation? Let those who deny the  
Socialist principle that a capitalist's  
political views are the exhalations of his  
pockets listen to Captain Reed him-  
self. He says:

"I have gone into gold mining. It is  
now the money metal of the world, and  
as a business man I refuse to shut my  
eyes to facts. I have found in Mexico  
one which runs to the fabulous value of  
forty-five ounces to the ton, or \$900.  
Labor there is only 62 cents a day in  
Mexican money. This gives a saving of  
\$2.50 a day on that score over mining  
in the United States. Timber is cheap  
and water is abundant. I intend to re-  
turn to Mexico next month and develop  
my business there."

Here we have a man, who, in veritable  
paroxysms of indignation at the small-  
ness of the wages of the poor working  
class, called upon the workers to vote  
for Bryan, now licking his chops at the  
cheapness of labor in Mexico, and ready  
to grow wealthy by fleecing the poorly  
paid workers.

The circular which the capitalists  
are sending to Congress against the  
Supreme Court decision on the Trans-  
Missouri case has passages in it that  
deserve to be memorized. We are in  
full accord with the principle that they  
utter, and, memorizing them, we shall  
have occasion to apply those principles  
at a time when this very gentry will  
be howling about the "sanctity of the  
courts," as a means to bluff the Amer-  
ican proletariat and frighten it against  
enforcing its rights. Some of the pas-  
sages run thus:

"If a jury in an important case can-  
not render a decision on the evidence  
submitted, the judge presiding sends  
them out for further consideration, and  
the minority are apt to be designated  
as obstinate jurors, even though they  
are acting as their conscience dictates.  
It would seem that the interests of the  
owners of one-fifth of the wealth of the  
United States ought to have the privi-  
lege of sending the highest jury in our  
land out again for further deliberation  
when a question of great moment is de-  
cided by a vote which is almost a tie,  
and when the question is one based  
purely on points of law."

At the time when the proletariat will  
be applying the principle set forth in  
this passage they will, however, not  
speak for the "owners of one-fifth of the  
Wealth of the United States," but for  
the "producers of five-fifths" of the  
wealth of the United States."

## SWEET MCKINLEY

OR  
The Labor Fakir's Appeal.

AIT: "SWEET MARY."  
Written for THE PEOPLE BY T. A. HICKY,  
Brooklyn.

I've a secret in my heart,  
Sweet McKinley,  
That I desire to impart  
All to thee.

'Tis about the S. T. & L. A.;  
We are having the devil to pay,  
So no dues are coming our way,  
Sweet McKinley.

Many salt tears I have shed,  
Sweet McKinley,  
For the "Phillips' Bill" is dead,  
Don't you see?  
A grave danger for me does lurk;  
That makes me angry as a Turk;  
'Tis that I'll have to go to work,  
Sweet McKinley.

When I take your hand in mine,  
Sweet McKinley,  
Thoughts of boodle most divine  
Float over me.  
In the past my class I sold  
For your shining, yellow gold;  
Now I'm out in the cold,  
Sweet McKinley.

As you sit in the White House chair,  
Sweet McKinley,  
Kindly listen to the prayer  
Of poor little me:  
I'm as humble as a Quaker,  
Of any job I'll be a taker;  
Oh! pity the Labor Fakir,  
Sweet McKinley.



UNCLE SAM & BROTHER JONATHAN.

Brother Jonathan—I'd like to know  
upon what principle Socialists claim  
that the working class should have all  
the wealth, and the capitalist class none.  
Uncle Sam—Upon the very simple  
principle that the working class does all  
the work of production and the cap-  
italist does none.

B. J.—Go away!  
U. S.—Whither?  
B. J.—I don't care whither in par-  
ticular. That's not so!

U. S.—What's not so?  
B. J.—That the capitalists do not  
work.

U. S.—If you know of any who does,  
let me know.

B. J.—Did you ever hear of Jay  
Gould?

U. S.—Yes.

B. J.—Did you ever read his bio-  
graphy?

U. S.—Several of them, and they  
prove my statement.

B. J.—You must have been asleep  
while reading them; or you must have  
read very imperfect ones.

U. S.—Neither.

B. J.—Why, I remember distinctly  
that it is recorded in the one I read  
that he used to work regularly 16 hours  
a day.

U. S. puts his hands to his hips and  
roars.

B. J.—What are you roaring about?

U. S.—At your blunder. I now see  
the funny error that you have fallen in.

B. J.—What error?

U. S.—You are getting mixed up on  
the word "work." See here. Does a  
pickpocket "work," or does he not?

B. J.—Guess he does.

U. S.—Does a pirate "work," or does  
he not?

B. J.—Guess he does.

U. S.—Does a forger "work," or does  
he not?

B. J.—I guess, he, too, works.

U. S.—Now, don't you yet see the  
difference between "work" and "work?"

B. J. puckers his eyelids as if a flood  
of light is pouring into his eyes.

U. S.—All exertion may be termed  
"work." But there are two sorts of ex-  
ertions:

One sort is productive of benefits to  
society; it either directly enriches its  
store of wealth or of knowledge, or it  
does so indirectly. This sort of exertion  
is the work done by the working class.

Another sort of exertion is productive  
of nothing, at least of nothing that is  
good, and may be productive of much  
that is bad. Not an additional blade of  
grass, or an additional shoe string, not  
one particle of the material wealth  
needed by man is brought forth by the  
exertion of the pirate, the forger, the  
pickpocket or any other criminal, nor  
does their exertion bring forth one bit  
of useful knowledge. The exertion of  
all such people does only this; it trans-  
fers to their own pockets the wealth  
created by the productive work of  
others. This sort of exertion is the  
work of the capitalist class.

B. J.—Well, that throws a new light  
upon the question.

U. S.—The capitalist class does not do  
any useful work. It schemes, indulges  
in tricks by which it transfers from the  
hands of the working class the wealth  
that these produce, and its several  
members cudgel their brains and  
"work" 16 or more hours a day upon  
fraudulent devices to cheat one another.  
This sort of work, so far from being en-  
titled to any reward, is entitled only to  
severe punishment. That's why we So-  
cialists say that the capitalists are en-  
titled to nothing except to bolts and  
bars.

B. J.—If that's the only sort of work  
they do they surely deserve the prison.



## FACTS VS. BRAUSTRICKS

Common Sense From a Winnipeg, Canada, Businessman to Businessmen Showing Necessity of Socialism.

There have been for many years past two great factors in the moulding of popular or current thought. To these we refer by the names of the "pulpit and the press." To such extent as they have created for even up-to-date current thought, they are responsible for the conditions of life which exist around us. Men are so constructed that it always remains true that we uphold the things to which we take no exception. If men could only learn the deep, strong force which lies in thought, I am sure there would not be that apparent reticence upon the part of business men to speak out concerning the things that vitally interest them. It is a noticeable fact that those whom we refer to as "business men" are very slow indeed to speak out upon public questions. This is not much to be wondered at, seeing that each merchant lives in a kind of mental Siberia, where, even in this professedly "free" country with professedly "free" institutions, it may mean commercial suicide to speak the things that are in our minds. But there is one thing sure, and that is that our silence as "business men" has allowed others to speak without contradiction upon subjects concerning which their remarks have always betrayed a lamentable ignorance of the facts in the case. Thus the coils of a destroying monster have been slowly but surely wrapped around us, until we are at last forced to cry out by sheer force of our situation. The writer remembers, when a school boy, writing as a headline at writing practice "competition is the life of trade." Had he written "competition is the soul of commerce" and "commerce is the death of trade," I think a goodly number would consent to it that it would have been much nearer the truth than the headline in our copy-books.

We learn the truth or falsehood of any statement by experience alone; and I am satisfied that "business men" in any line will be found to admit that the old-fashioned headline is a glaring lie! This is what we will admit in secret; but are somewhat shy about proclaiming upon the houseposts.

Though the gigantic trusts and monopolies which have been formed by previously warring business men are the best evidence to the rest of the public that we do not believe in the truth of the maxim so much as we did, the "war of competition" between the proprietors of cotton mills was what brought about the combination known as the Dominion Cotton Mills Co. The war between manufacturers of wool cotton was what has caused several of the larger concerns to recently amalgamate their forces. When we look the situation square in the face, we know that from the perishable nature of all classes of goods we are forced to sell—at a profit if we can; but if not, then at a loss. Any man in modern commerce knows perfectly well that no man in business is responsible for the competition and cutting of prices which exists. If he does not know it, then he should learn it at once; for it is a naked truth. Of course none will plead guilty to the charge of cutting. It is always "the other fellow." This is nonsense pure and simple; it is all of us. Any one denying it does not know (or else does not consider) all the facts. Whether a man is a millionaire or otherwise, it matters not. The buying public are out for "bargains," and the house or firm which convinces the public that it is the firm or house which will give them the best and most for their money is the house that sells—whether at a profit or at a loss. We are all in it; if not, we will soon be out of it—perhaps sooner for not being "in it" than "out of it." Any business man knows these things—stated in general—are facts. Under such circumstances I ask: What can be the only results?

I have an article before me entitled "Success in Commerce," in which the writer records that, based upon "actual experience" in the city of Boston, not more than three in one hundred achieved independence. An experience of forty years had proven that only five in one hundred remained. The others "had either failed or died destitute of property. That ninety per cent. of all the estates settled in the Probate Court were insolvent. That not more than one per cent. of the best class of merchants in Philadelphia and New York retired with a competence." In "Cincinnati a journalist prepared a list of leading business men, and, after the lapse of twenty years, it gave an unbroken list of failures."

This article tells us in only too plain language what the "results" are; and the Toronto "Globe" is responsible for the article in its edition of May 27, 1896.

Now, what we need to get at, if these things are true, is a solution of the question: Are men and merchants responsible for their own bankruptcy, or are we working under laws and conditions wherein the inevitable results (at least a large proportion in the present and the small minority in the near future) will be bankruptcy? We cannot go into details in a paper necessarily the length of this one; but when only three to five per cent. are successful we are obliged to admit either one or two things:

First—That the other 95 to 97 per cent. of business men are fools; or,

Second—That they are living under laws made by (either) fools or knaves.

We can take which ever horn of the dilemma we like; but there we are. The dilemma is evident; we can only submit the logical conclusion that either we are "mostly fools" or else our legislation is the work of fools, or—what is more pitiable—knaves. In charity we are obliged to think that our legislators are not knaves; and in equal charity to ourselves we can scarcely credit merchants as being "95 to 97 per cent. fools."

At this point I wish to deal with Messrs. Bradstreet's report or "study of the causes of commercial failures," published recently. In 1896 there were 2,204 failures in Canada, according to Bradstreet. The various causes assigned were these: "Incompetence, 208; inexperience, 94; lack of capital, 1,481; unwise credit, 31; failure of others, 22; extravagance, 8; neglect, 48; competition, 63; disaster, 1,577; speculation, 17; fraud, 80."

This is an interesting list, and it is

now an annual occurrence. We see what this very interesting firm of Bradstreet think of their clients. Remember, men, you are all right until you fail; then they size you up just as they have done others. But if Messrs. Bradstreet had told the truth—and they could not tell it unless they knew it—they would have summed up the whole list under one heading, and that is "competition," to which hydra-headed monster they only attribute 63 out of the 2,204 failures. Think of all that 2,204 failures means. Most business men are married, with wives and families dependent on their efforts. Nearly all have employees, many of whom likewise are married, and are dependent upon the success of their employers' businesses. Honest bankruptcy, upon the part of the debtor list, means poverty and distress. Is it because they have not worked, and worked faithfully? It is not; for bankruptcy is not confined to the indolent. Any other excuse than the conditions of commerce is rendered as a reason for failure; but if we would only think for a moment that men, women or children cannot very well eat more than one square meal even at a time when they are very hungry, and that more than one suit of clothes at a time is only an inconvenience, we would quickly recognize that Messrs. Bradstreet's "study of the causes of commercial failure" is made from a prejudiced standpoint. It is to their interest to blame the unsuccessful rather than the thing we call "commerce." Were we to have all labor and production thoroughly systematized, which would at once destroy all competition, we fear our estimable friends and well-wishers, the Messrs. Bradstreet, and other mercantile agencies, would have to change their course of studies. I will now briefly speak to business men, and to Messrs. Bradstreet, upon MY "study" upon this same question.

I find our society is divided into two great classes—the governing and the governed. In this country we find that there is one office which assures to the beneficiary \$50,000 per annum and living expenses. There is no bankruptcy in that business. Then we have premiers and ministers, with a vast army of civil service employees, at salaries of \$10,000 downwards per annum. We know this also means freedom from bankruptcy. There is also a "Senate with life employment." Also a large and ever-increasing superannuated list of persons who are kept at the public expense after having enjoyed much more comfortable salaries than falls to the lot of the great outside majority. Here also there is no bankruptcy. Is it because these people are more capable than others? No. But because the conditions of their livings are different. And just think of it, business men! Where do their livings come from? Is it not from that beneficent institution we call the customs house? It certainly is; and business men are assuming the whole responsibility. We know well that this great taxation is the first call on our business; and we also know that before some of the goods are exchanged for cash they do not realize sufficient to pay the duties. Outside of the legislative fraternity, we have manufacturers and farmers and their employees, then retail men and their employees. We have wholesale men and their employees; then outside of all these we have banks, bankers and their employees. From one end of the list to the other, without almost any exception, these are nominally, if not professedly, "Christians." The leading men in politics, in banking, in commerce are nearly all active "church" men. Some of them are Y. M. C. A. workers. Some are elders and deacons, Bible-class teachers and leaders in prayer meetings—all professing allegiance to the teachings of Jesus Christ. He said: "By this shall all men know that ye are My disciples if ye have love one to another."

Alas! he thinks I hear some say, "religion is a thing for the church and Sunday school; it has no place in business." One thing is sure; if they do not say it, they practice it; and "practice is better than precept." Imagine wholesalers loving wholesalers; retailers loving retailers; the governing loving the governed; bankers loving other than bankers. Aye, imagine it, if you can. Banks have no souls, it is said. No; but bankers have them, and so do their victims. I have seen business men contribute largely to the success and prosperity of banking institutions; and the same banks treat the same business men as if they were thieves and robbers, when the truth was they were only trying to meet adverse circumstances, and failed in the attempt. If it be right that one man in the social constitution of any people be protected against bankruptcy by \$50,000 and living expenses annually, it is right that all men, and all families, be equally protected. If one, then all; if not all, then not any. There is not a man in this country would fail if he knew his annual income was \$50,000 and living expenses. Then why charge failure to incompetence or any other lack upon the parts of business men? The whole situation is chargeable to incompetent and unfair legislation; to which all bankruptcy is truthfully attributable. This may sound unpalatable. It is true. If it is not pleasant, the more the pity. It is said men love darkness better than light. It seems like it. Any who are not wilfully blind can see where we are. Business men are trying to carry an unequal condition of affairs, and—as we might expect—are being crushed in the attempt. We are receiving a painful lesson. Nothing but a rugged experience will teach us the truths we will not receive in theory; therefore the experience is a necessity. We are getting it. We are all Christians—at least we say so. A burned child dreads the fire. When we have gone through the purifying fire of competition we will find our spirits purified by the longing for co-operation. We will seek the only reasonable thing—a thorough system of labor in production and distribution. In this we will be able to enjoy the fruits of our labors and take no thought for the things of to-morrow. There will be no bank notes falling due. The image of God, and not that of Caesar, will be the only coin current. "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Love of money will be a thing of the past; and our

neighbors. We have around us on every hand the things needed for our enjoyment. Labor is the only thing we need to continue an abundant supply for all. This supply, or the products of labor—food, clothing, shelter, etc.—is the only real wealth, as labor is the only true capital invested. The whole people, who must produce and exchange, must control the production and the means or methods of exchange. We must cease to be dependent upon any part of the whole for a means of exchange. Money is a fraud—a delusion and a snare. It is an invention for the purpose of avoiding labor upon the part of its possessors, and forcing it upon those who lack it. Let us at once correct the mistakes of the past by recognizing the necessity for co-operative labor upon the part of all—national co-operation. In it there can be no "bank"ruptcy, because there are no banks to break. Neither will there be any assignees or mercantile agencies awaiting like vultures for carrion. "Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people," saith the Scriptures. Sin is transgression of divine or national law. Both these read: "Thou shalt care for thy neighbor as thou carest for thyself." Anything else means poverty to some; and one is as likely to be the victim as another. Let us then prove our Christianity. "By this shall all men know that ye are My disciples if ye have love one of another."—Winnipeg, Canada, "People's Voice."

### LETTER BOX.

#### Offhand Answers to Inquirers.

M. H. F., N. Y.—No, to both questions.

"Sancta Simplicitas," Meadows, Fla.—First—The Marxian prediction which you quote: "Before the Nineteenth Century ends, the masses will be compelled to fight for collectivism or starve" will be substantially verified.

Second—It is not necessary that each of one half the voters plus one should be actually firmly convinced and trained Socialists. The great events of the world were all accomplished by minorities acting timely, and thoroughly posted and determined. Historic seasons are like climatic seasons. Capitalism is creating the season that will drive the masses in rebellion against it. The S. L. P. will be the nucleus around which they will gather, having been the steady beacon that all along alone in the midst of the storm. Fear not. We, this adult generation of Socialists, will bequeath to the generation below us and through them to the posterity of mankind a better world to live in than our fathers left to us. Well may we feel happy and proud of the task and the mission history has thrown upon us.

Clemens Bernhardt, St. Louis, Mo.—Your order will be attended to by the Labor News Co., to whom it is passed over.

### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 11.—Section Washington was a few weeks ago addressed by J. Mahlon Barnes, of Philadelphia, whose subject was "Old and New Trades Unionism."

There was a large audience present, who applauded Comrade Barnes every point.

He scored the old importation from England, the "pure and simple" scheme, and its leading advocates, such as Gompers & Co. The papers both contained pretty good accounts of the meetings, and gave a fair report of what Barnes said. The fakirs of the A. F. of L., who moved their headquarters to this town, are being hard pushed at present. Only last week, at their own headquarters in their own building, they were told, while a meeting was in progress, that they were a lot of bunco-steering fakirs. They have also been foiled in an attempt to wreck a union here which is opposed to them, and take it all in all, the following letter, which explains itself, has but added to their woes:

"Mr. Samuel Gompers, President, A. F. of L.

"Dear Sir—On Sunday, March 21, J. Mahlon Barnes, of Philadelphia, lectured at Labor Bureau Hall, 609 C Street, N. W., on the subject of 'Old and New Trades Unionism.' You are invited to be present and join in the after discussion. With your unique and faultless knowledge of history, both ancient and modern, you will no doubt be able to intelligently discuss the lecture, thereby giving pleasure and gratification to the audience who will be present. A large-hearted, generous man like you, who has devoted all his life, since a tender age, to the cause of labor, would, so we think, be pleased to make use of this opportunity to appear at the lecture with some practical utterances on the question to be discussed.

"We, of course, understand that your forte is 'practicability,' and can judge from your appearance that you have made a personal success of that forte, so that in again requesting you to be present, we further recognize your great ability for discussing in an intelligent manner any subject from a 'practical' standpoint. Yours, etc.,

"ARTHUR KEEPE, Organizer, Section Washington, S. L. P. Mr. Gompers did not turn up."

### Minnesota.

ST. PAUL, Minn., April 5.—On Sunday, the 4th. Session St. Paul, S. L. P., held their first open air meeting. It was a grand success. Hundreds of people stood in the drizzling rain to listen to the truths of Socialism uttered by Comrades Herbert Shaw and Daniel De Lory, of Minneapolis, and Comrades Corling and Potter, of St. Paul.

The working people are ripe for Socialism, and we are determined to carry it to them by having open air meetings every Sunday afternoon.

Our Paris Commune celebration was a perfect success, the hall being crowded. Section St. Paul is continually enrolling new names upon its list.

#### Committee on Charter.

The Committee on Charter and Awards begs to acknowledge receipt of a charter design signed "Carlo St. Elmo."

Owing to April 18 being Easter Sunday, the meeting has been postponed to the following Sunday, the 25th, at 2 p. m., N. Y. Labor Lyceum.

THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE.

## SOLIDARITY OF CAPITAL.

The Language of the Bourgeois Press on the Trans-Missouri Decision.

I have often thought what a good thing it would be for the hosts of workmen to be permeated with the same unanimity of feeling, when their interests are attacked, that pervades the capitalist class when their interests, or the interests of any of their number, are in danger. This was impressed upon my mind by the opinions of the different capitalist newspapers on the Supreme Court decision in the Trans-Missouri Freight Association case. Even those ostensibly in favor of the decision—more on account of attempts at being consistent with their past utterances than out of a love of justice—find something to chuckle at in it, ultimately proving a gain for capitalists and their ilk.

The New York "Journal of Commerce" states that, until the Supreme Court decides on a similar case, namely, the Joint Traffic Association, which has been upheld by the Federal Courts,

"We shall hesitate to accept the opinion delivered by Judge Peckham as putting an end to all possibility of a contract agreement between railroads to maintain rates. Such a conclusion we should regard as a disaster of the first magnitude, because, as experience has shown, in default of agreement among the railroads themselves, the interstate commerce law has but little influence in maintaining the equality of freight charges. It demands both steadiness of rates and active competition, things which necessarily kill each other. Now, if the Supreme Court is to range itself on the side of active competition, in the sense that EVERY SHIPPER WILL BE LEFT FREE TO EXPORT FROM THE RAILROADS AS LOW A RATE AS HE CAN, there is plainly nothing save a radical revision of the law between the transportation business and chaos. The prohibition of pooling or the maintaining of rates is adverse to the public interests, provided that the rates maintained are not unreasonable; and that they are uniform is far more important than that they should be reasonable."

There is truly something very beautiful in that sentence: "Every shipper will be left free to EXPORT from the railroads as low a rate as he CAN." How the railroad men must have smiled when they read that!

The New York "Evening Post," of file-dite fame, gets down in its corner, and emits the following shriek:

"A glance at the anti-trust act of 1890 in the light of this opinion is enough to send a cold shudder down the back of any owner of property. 'Every contract, combination in the form of trust, or otherwise, in restraint of trade or commerce among the several States, or with foreign nations, is hereby declared to be illegal, and every such contract is made punishable by a \$5,000 fine or imprisonment for a year, or both.'"

And then it concludes with these sad remarks:

"It is now held that the most ordinary agreements of commerce may be punished as crimes, by Congress, without proof that they produce any evil effect whatever."

This is a shocking state of affairs, indeed, and one can imagine the pious editor of the "Post" being broken down with grief, and tearfully bewailing the terrible disaster that has overtaken this nation, when Capital is asked to conform to a law on the statute books, and no opportunity is offered to give labor the generous "rifle diet" prescribed to it by this same philanthropic individual. It is truly awful! Will not some one take pity on him?

The New York "World," which poses so often as the champion of workingmen and has thereby obtained a large circulation, after taking to itself a great deal of credit for the decision, states that no decision could do more to check "the dangerous tendency toward an aggressive socialism which was revealed in the last election." And then proceeds to pour more balm into the wound, which it thinks Capitalism has received, by the following:

"As the Supreme Court is the strongest bulwark of property and rights as well as of personal rights, the combinations of capital that are disturbed by this decision should welcome it as distinctly for their ultimate good. By limiting their encroachments it will LIMIT THE REACTION against their encroachments. By reducing their oppression and injustice it will reduce the DANGER OF VIOLENT REMEDIES, worse than the disease."

The Brooklyn "Eagle," the proud upholder of all the riotous and murderous acts of the State Militia, when used against the unarmed citizens of the State who object to the oppressive demands of Capital, gives vent to a covert threat to defy the Supreme Court by the "preservative instincts of business and of society" people, in the following: "If there is to be a universal recurrence to chaos and cut rates, the roads, their stockholders, their customers, and the people affected by them will be such sufferers that before long a remedy will have to be reached for the ills. If the pooling arrangements or the traffic understandings formerly reached averted all the malign results which, it is claimed, will be made not only possible, but actual, by the decision of the Supreme Court, then THE SELF-PRESERVATIVE INSTINCTS OF BUSINESS AND OF SOCIETY will assert themselves in the discovery of methods whereby a situation of prosperity can be restored and an imminence of disaster turned aside."

Many other papers give opinions similar to those given above. While they all do not denounce the decision, they distinctly intimate that the decision must not stand, for if it does, these "law-abiding" gentlemen threaten disastrous consequences. They are the "best people," and while they are "law-abiding," so long as the law does not interfere with their little "peculiarities," directly it does, though, and makes an attempt to prove that they, as well as others, are amenable to the laws, then these "best people," these "law-abiding people" shriek and threaten the law and its officers with annihilation if they or it stand in the way of their desires. But on the other hand, if the "common people" daign to murmur against a law, then the shriek goes up, "give them the rifle diet," "give them grape and canister," "give them bayonet."

If they do not respect the majesty of the law." And the "common people" echo the cry against their fellow-citizens who so murmur.

Among the Socialists and New Trade Unionists alone will you find that solidarity of feeling that is so frequently exhibited among the capitalists. Outside of the S. L. P. some are like a flock of sheep astray in the wilderness, not knowing which way to turn; while others are like unto a pack of wolves ready to devour one another if wounded. E. M. McG.

Brooklyn, April 12th.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

#### Rising Tide in Newburg, N. Y.

To THE PEOPLE—I make no doubt that the education you are giving and the object lessons the capitalists are furnishing, both of which are perceptibly changing the tone of the workers around here that they will soon come to their senses. I predict a large vote for our party from now on. Let me thank THE PEOPLE for the work it is doing in our noble cause; its columns splendidly show up crime and rascality, and points the way out.

WILLIS HENRY.

Newburg, N. Y., April 6.

#### The Best Education We Have.

To THE PEOPLE—Enclosed please find \$1 renewing my subscription to THE PEOPLE. The paper is good—good in its attitude of open war on Fakirdom, good in its uncompromising policy in politics, and best of all in its dealings with the great questions of the day. I would not be without it. In surveying the whole field of battle, and joyously noticing the great advances made everywhere, we know that much of it is due to THE PEOPLE and its staff. No workman ought to be without it. It is the very best educator we have.

ED. LAUER.

Montreal, Canada, April 5.

#### Refuses to Play Decoy Duck.

To THE PEOPLE—J. H. Clotey, of the Lynn Union No. 80, Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, having declined to stand as the candidate for president of his union, and been elected over his declination, refuses to accept the election. Some may think his conduct extreme; to me it looks proper. A class-conscious workman, that is to say, a New Trade Unionist, may justly, and often should, work along with his fellow wage earners, who, besides the yoke of wage slavery that they carry in common with him, carry also the yoke of "pure and simpledom." But there are circumstances when, to accept such a leading office as that of President in a body that continues to cling tenaciously to the blunder of "pure and simpledom," would be on the part of a conspicuous New Trade Unionist an act very much akin to playing decoy duck. Clotey is an outspoken New Trade Unionist. I believe his conduct in this matter is wise and dignified. He wrote this final letter of declination for our union:

"Lynn, Mass., Monday, April 5.

"Unity Union No. 80, B. & S. W. U. "Fellow Members—I desire to reiterate the reasons why I declined to stand as a candidate for president of our union on the two occasions when your good opinion of my fitness for that position prompted you to thus honor me. The fact that you have elected me to the position in question in face of my declination compels me to state as plainly as possible my reasons for declining the honor you have conferred upon me.

"As a Socialist I decline to be the headpiece of any union that opposes the political union of the workers at the ballot box. This political union must be formed on class-conscious grounds, namely, that the purchaser of labor power has interests diametrically opposed to the interests of those who have only their labor power to sell. This being an indisputable fact, it becomes necessary for the latter class to clearly understand to which party they belong. The Republican party represents the capitalist class, the Democratic party represents the middle class. These two classes bear the same relation to the wage earning class as the horse leech does to its victim. The Socialist Labor party, to which I belong, demands the emancipation of the wage workers from wage slavery by the establishment of the Socialist Commonwealth through the ballot box. The members of this union are not ready to follow me in this line of dual unity of economics and politics. When the trades unions are ready to act on the lines laid down by Socialist workmen I am then willing to preside over their deliberations; until then I refuse to become a centre-piece for this or any such other body of workmen. Thanking you for the honor conferred, I remain,

Fraternally yours,

"JOHN H. CLOHECY."

#### Happy of our Acquaintance.

To THE PEOPLE—I have been receiving THE PEOPLE since September last, some one having paid a six months' subscription for me at that time. Please place the \$1 I now send to my credit. I will from time to time send you names and a little money to cover trial subscriptions as often as I can afford it.

I am very thankful to Comrade Pearce, of Lynn, who, I think, caused the paper to be sent to me, for I might still be groping my way in the darkness of the "Coming Nation" if it were not for him.

I used to receive sample copies of THE PEOPLE in years gone by from friends and from the office direct, but I took little or no notice of them, simply because I thought the paper "too extreme."

The continuous receipt of it drew my attention closer, and immediately I saw the clearness and absolute correctness of the position maintained by THE PEOPLE. Although from my heart I regretted exceedingly my inaction formerly, I saw that regrets of that kind were no use, so I quietly went to work for the S. L. P., and propose to continue my labors in that direction as long as the power is spared to me.

Your article on the closing of last volume and the opening of this is clear and terse. Keep up the fight.

JER. O'FHEILLY.

Abbingdon, Mass., April 4.

#### Hartford, Conn.

J. Rossmel, 15 Hamilton street, is an authorized business agent for THE PEOPLE. All subscribers in arrears are requested to renew by him.

## A GENRE PICTURE

Drawn by the Master Hand of Alexander Dumas.

We reproduce here, from one of Dumas' works, a passage that will go far to explain some contemporary phenomena. It describes a scene that took place in France at the time of Louis XIV., when the collection of the revenues of the kingdom used to be farmed out. The means by which official evil-doers managed to be "popular," the sort of apostles they had, and the staunch support such miscreants received from the clergy, these are all matters of historic record; in the below passage they are sketched and condensed into one short dialogue that tells the whole tale vividly. The two characters produced on the canvass are the Chief Minister of Finance, Fouquet, who had been sucking the country dry, and his brother, the Abbe, who just calls upon him:

"What can I do to serve you, Monsieur l'Abbe?" said he.

"Oh! Oh! how you say that to me, brother?"

"I speak it like a man who is in a hurry, Monsieur."

The Abbe looked anxiously at Fouquet and said:

"I have three hundred pistoles to pay to Monsieur de Brege this evening; a play debt—a sacred debt."

"Next," said Fouquet bravely, for he comprehended that the Abbe Fouquet would not have disturbed him for such a want.

"A thousand to my butcher, who will supply no more."

"Next?"

"Twelve hundred to my tailor," continued the Abbe; "the fellow has made me take back seven suits of my people's, which compromises my liveries, and my mistress talks of replacing me by a farmer of the revenue, which would be a humiliation to the church."

"What else is there?" said Fouquet.

"You will please to remark," said the Abbe, humbly, "that I have asked nothing for myself."

"That is delicate, Monsieur," replied Fouquet; "so, as you see, I wait."

"And I ask nothing, oh, no; it is not for want of need, though, I assure you. The minister collected a mite."

"Twelve hundred pistoles to the tailor; that is a great deal for clothes," said he.

"I maintain a hundred men," said the Abbe, proudly; "that is a charge, I believe."

"Why a hundred men?" said Fouquet.

"Are you a Richelieu or a Mazarin, to require a hundred men as a guard?"

"What use do you make of these men? Speak—say."

"And do you ask me that?" cried the Abbe Fouquet. "Ah! how can you put such a question—Why I maintain a hundred men? Ah!"

"Why, yes; I do put that question to you. What have you to do with a hundred men? Answer."

"Ingrate!" continued the Abbe, more and more affected.

"Explain yourself."

"Why, Monsieur le Surintendant, I only want one valet de chambre for my part, and even if I were alone could help myself very well; but you—you who have so many enemies—a hundred men are not enough for me to defend you with. A hundred men! You ought to have ten thousand. I maintain, then, these men in order that if public places, in assemblies, no voice may be raised against you; and without them, Monsieur, you would be loaded with imprecations, you would be torn to pieces, you would not last a week; no, not a week. Do you understand?"

"Ah! I did not know you were my champion to such an extent, Monsieur l'Abbe."

"You doubt it?" cried the Abbe. "Listen, then, to what happened not longer ago than yesterday in the Rue de la Hochette. A man was cheapening a fowl."

"Well, how could that injure me, Abbe?"

"This way: The fowl was not fat. The purchaser refused to give eighteen sous for it, saying that he could not afford eighteen sous for the skin of a fowl, of which Monsieur Fouquet had all the fat."

"Go on."

"The joke caused a deal of laughter," continued the Abbe; "laughter at your expense—death to all the devils!"—and the canaille were delighted. The Joke added: 'Give me a fowl led by Monsieur Colbert, if you please, and I will give you all you ask. And immediately there was a clapping of hands. A frightful scandal, you understand; a scandal which forces a brother to hide his face.'"

"And you yelled it," said the Minister of France.

"No; for it so happened I had one of my men in the crowd; a new recruit from the provinces, one Monsieur de Menneville, whom I like very much. He made his way through the press, saying to the joker: 'Mille Barbes! Monsieur the False Joker, here's a thrust for Colbert.' 'And one for Fouquet,' replied the joker. Upon which they drew, in front of the cook's shop, with a hedge of the curious round them, and five hundred as curious at the windows."

"Well?" said Fouquet.

"Well, Monsieur, my Menneville spitted the joker, to the great astonishment of the spectators, and said to the cook: 'Take this goose, my friend; it is fatter than your fowl.' That is the way, Monsieur," ended the Abbe, triumphantly, "in which I spend my revenues. I maintain the honor of the family, Monsieur."

Fouquet hung his head.

"And I have a hundred as good as he," continued the Abbe.

"Very well," said Fouquet, "hand in the bill to my clerk."

Change names and offices and towns or streets, and we have the same thing now.

#### Carless Speaks in Buffalo.

Henry Carless will deliver a lecture, accompanied by numerous brilliant stereoscopic pictures, on Thursday, the 22d inst., at 8 p. m., in Turn Hall, 329 Elliott street, near Genesee. Admission free.



## PARTY NEWS.

Activity of Militant Socialists East, West, North and South.

## National Executive Committee.

At the session of April 13th all members were present, with Comrade Matchett in the chair. The financial report for the week ending April 10, shows receipts, \$70.25; expenditures, \$219.30; deficit, \$149.05. Labor News Co.: Receipts, \$148.68; expenditures, \$45.55; balance, \$103.13.

Relative to the general vote upon the Jewish press, it is resolved to open to party members a limited space for the discussion of the matter, and that the time for the close of the vote be extended to June 5th.

A communication from Jewish Section, Boston, is ordered printed in THE PEOPLE, with a reply of the Executive Committee. Charter is granted to a new Section in Mount Vernon, N. Y., composed of Italians, and to be designated as Section No. 2.

Comrade L. A. Malkiel is elected Recording Secretary in place of Comrade Copp, resigned.

L. A. MALKIEL, Rec. Sec.

At the session held April 6th, John H. Moore presided. Absent: Matchett, Copp and Senbert; all excused. The financial report for the week ending April 3d shows receipts to the amount of \$11.85; expenditures, \$171.61.

The Labor News Company reports receipts \$154.29, expenditures \$38.47, balance \$115.82.

The Secretary is instructed to have prepared a statement setting forth the position of the S. L. P. toward the trade unions.

Comrades Charles B. Copp sent in his resignation on account of ill health, and the Secretary is ordered to issue a call for nominations to fill the vacancy.

A charter is granted to a new Section located at Rockville, Conn.

L. A. MALKIEL, Rec. Sec. pro tem.

## Call for Nomination to N. E. C.

To the Sections of Greater New York. The Sections located within the territory of the Greater New York are hereby called upon to make nominations for one member of the National Executive Committee in place of Comrade Charles B. Copp, who has resigned on account of ill health.

The organizers of the aforesaid Sections are requested to submit this matter at the next session of their respective bodies, and transmit the nominations then made to the undersigned not later than Saturday, May 1st, on which day the nominations close.

By order of the National Executive Committee.

HENRY KUHN, Secretary.

## Call for a General Vote.

184 William Street, New York, March 30, 1897.  
To the Sections of the S. L. P.

Comrades—The National Executive Committee beg to submit the following proposition to the referendum vote of the Sections throughout the country.

We are of opinion that the party press in all languages should be under direct party control, in order that a systematic agitation may be carried on in every possible direction. Such control is especially important now that the party's political activity makes the press a most important and indispensable weapon, which should not be exposed to the risk of being alienated from the party or of falling into the hands of those who may oppose our platform or tactics.

The "Abend-Blatt" and "Arbeiter-Zeitung," published in New York city, are agencies of great importance in conducting our agitation among the ranks of Jewish-speaking workmen. There is a wide-spread demand among the Jewish Comrades that these organs should belong to the party, and the National Executive Committee has received a proposition from the Arbeiter-Zeitung Publishing Association, which conducts the publication of said organs, that the party should assume the control thereof.

The last National Convention of the S. L. P., owing to dissensions existing among Jewish Comrades in connection with these organs, passed a resolution forbidding any Section to have any connection with the Jewish press. This action was taken in the belief that if the Jewish Comrades were left severely alone they would soon settle their differences among themselves.

Experience has shown, however, that notwithstanding the action of the convention, these dissensions still exist, and are a serious impediment to our agitation among the Jewish masses.

We believe that if the direct control and supervision of the Jewish press is vested in the party, acting through its National Executive Committee, all the pretences for disturbances would be entirely removed.

For these reasons it is of great advantage to the party, and especially to Section New York and its agitation, that the party assume control of our Jewish press, the direct ownership, however, to be continued for legal reasons on the incorporated body.

We therefore submit to a referendum vote the following proposition:

"The property and management of the 'Abend-Blatt' and 'Arbeiter-Zeitung' shall be vested in the Arbeiter-Zeitung Publishing Association, under the direct control of the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Labor party. The books of said publishing association shall be examined, once every three months, by an expert accountant, to be appointed by said committee."

The "Abend-Blatt" and "Arbeiter-Zeitung" shall be made the Jewish official organs of the S. L. P.

The editors shall be elected jointly by the National Executive Committee and the Publishing Association; or, in case they cannot agree, by a general vote of the members of the party, the same as the editors of "The People" and "Vorwärts." Any editor who may prove incompetent or violate the platform or constitution of the party shall be forthwith suspended by the National Executive Committee.

The National Executive Committee shall act as a Board of Grievances, and hear and determine complaints respecting the business or editorial management of said organs.

The result of the vote of the Sections should be sent to HENRY KUHN, Secretary, 184 William Street, New York City, not later than May 20, 1897.

By order of the National Executive Committee, HENRY KUHN, Sec.

## THE DAILY PEOPLE

\$50,000 FUND.

Amount Pledged down to April 14th, 1897.

\$4,270.

T. W. Z. N. Y. \$10 payable, June 1.  
Simon O. Pollack, N. Y. 20 " August 15.  
Fred. Lauer, Brooklyn, N. Y. 10 " August 1.  
Morris Lederman, Brooklyn, N. Y. 10 " On demand.

Total this week.....\$50

The following amounts have been paid down to April 14th, incl:

Previously acknowledged.....\$567.75  
Eben Forbes, Brooklyn, N. Y. \$1; O'Shaughnessy, Brooklyn, N. Y. \$1; Knud Rasmussen, Buffalo, Wyo. \$10; Bruno Thorne, Brooklyn, N. Y. \$1; Proceeds of Committee Celebration of American Section San Francisco, Cal. \$12.52; P. G. R. Gordon, Manchester, N. H. \$5; Adolph Jablonski, City \$10; Peter Larsen, Brooklyn, N. Y. \$1; John Hossack, Jersey City, N. J. \$1; Chas. Schenckmann, Brooklyn, N. Y. \$5.....47.65

Total.....\$515.40

Pledgers will please keep in mind the dates on which their payments fall due, as per printed list, and remit promptly. If any error appears on the list, correct with equal promptness.

THE DAILY PEOPLE COMMITTEE.

184 William St., N. Y.

## Expressions of Opinion on the General Vote Called for by the N. E. C.

To the Comrades—I am glad to see the stand the National Executive Committee takes in regard to the Arbeiter-Zeitung. It is the only way out of the difficulty.

By the party assuming control, as proposed by the National Executive Committee, all difficulty will be removed. We shall be then able to go ahead with our agitation, and those who will still kick will have to stand the consequences. I am perfectly satisfied that the recommendation of the National Executive will be accepted throughout the land with a great majority because we have very few Socialist papers, and can not afford to lose or see any of them go astray. The example of the St. Louis "Tageblatt" ought to be sufficient to convince all Comrades that not unless every paper is controlled by the party can we be sure of its standing straight. What is your opinion? Am I right? I would invite a full expression of opinion.

S. ROSENWEIG.

New York, April 13.

To the National Executive Committee, S. L. P.:

Dear Comrades—The call for a general vote concerning the "Abendblatt" and "Arbeiter Zeitung" was read at our meeting of the Jewish Section, S. L. P., and after a thorough consideration our Section decided not to vote at the present at all, for the following reasons:

First—The Executive Committee has no right, according to our constitution, to issue a call for a referendum if it is not requested by five Sections situated in three different States. In your call you do not mention the names of the five Sections.

Second—As your proposition is in direct opposition to the decision of the last National Convention, it cannot be brought to a general vote before this decision, which was afterwards endorsed by the whole party, is reconsidered and repealed.

Third—Usually time is given for amendments, but on this occasion the Executive Committee does not give time for that purpose. We hope that the Executive Committee will comply with the constitution, as it requires the same from the members of the party, and we hope that in bringing that proposition in a legal way before the party it will enable us to participate in the vote.

Please let us know your answer before next Friday, the day of our next meeting. Yours fraternally, the Boston Jewish Section, S. L. P.

M. TURETZ, Organizer.

## Answer of the National Executive Committee.

It is evident that there has not been such a thorough consideration of the points in question as is claimed by the Section; it would not have arrived at an interpretation of our constitution for which the constitution furnishes no ground.

Since it may not be impossible that a similar misconception prevails elsewhere, we deem it advisable to give publication to the foregoing with our rejoinder.

In regard to the first reason given by the Section, it should be observed that the constitution in no wise forbids that the administration of the party turn to its constituency and submit important questions to them for decision. What the constitution does do is to regulate the conditions under which Sections may refer propositions of theirs to a general vote. On more technical grounds, it may be said that an Executive Committee, representing the whole party, is not a Section, and that since the constitution speaks of Sections only in relation to this matter, it clearly does not forbid that the Executive Committee should not refer. But there are better reasons than this purely negative justification. An Executive Committee, by virtue of its position, is necessarily in possession of more comprehensive information about the affairs of the party and its needs than any single Section can ordinarily be, hence a denial of their right to turn to their constituents and referring to them matters of importance, is an abrogation of the right of initiative clearly out of joint, not only with the letter, but also with the spirit of our constitution.

As to the second reason given, we are at a loss to understand how the Section can arrive at such conclusions. In our party organization the power to determine the affairs of the party rests lastly and finally with the rank and file. If, therefore, a National Convention, upon information then at hand, decides a certain matter in a certain way, and the membership indorses such action, does it follow that the rank and file thereby foregoes the right to make a change, if changed conditions make such change necessary? The National Convention no doubt took that action because it was then thought that it would tend to promote a settlement of the internal strife going on in the Jewish movement. But instead of abate-

ment, there has been an intensification of the trouble; a so-called opposition, made up of various elements in and outside of the party, wages war against Socialist papers with methods that cannot be called otherwise than reprehensible, and in extension of their action, plead that the papers "are not under control of the party," while at the same time they often use the name of the S. L. P. in making their attacks.

The third reason given is based upon a total misunderstanding of the constitution. Amendments may be made to a proposition aiming at a change of the constitution (see Section 1 of Miscellaneous Regulations), but in no other case. Hence it is not usual, as is claimed by the Section, that "usually time is given for amendments," and that reason falls to the ground.

In connection with the foregoing, notice should be taken that the Executive Committee at their last session decided to open a limited space in the party organs for the discussion of this matter by members of the party, and to extend the date of the close of the vote until Saturday, the 5th day of June.

By order of the National Executive Committee.

HENRY KUHN, Sec.

## Canada.

MONTREAL, April 10.—The Montreal Hebrew Section meets every Sunday night in Socialist Labor Party Headquarters, 223 McGill Street, at 8 o'clock. Headquarters are open day and night.

MONTREAL, April 12.—The newly elected National Executive Committee of the Socialist Labor party of Canada held a meeting April 11. The new Executive Committee consists of the following Comrades: Brennan, Miller, Senior, Griffiths, Saunders, Metcalfe, Severs.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Charter granted new Jewish Section Montreal, organized by Comrade Miller. The Sections meet in the S. L. P. headquarters, No. 223 McGill Street, which are open daily.

J. SEVERS, National Secy.

## Connecticut.

NEW HAVEN, April 11.—Charles H. Matchett, of Brooklyn, will speak in New Haven Sunday, April 18th, at Veru Hall, 156 Orange Street, at 2:30 p. m. Subject: "Socialism or Barbarism." Come and bring your friends.

## Massachusetts.

BOSTON, April 11.—All Comrades of Boston are notified that a joint meeting of the Boston Sections will be held on Sunday, April 25th, at 45 Eliot Street, at 3 p. m. Order of business: Nominations for a city ticket.

By order of City Committee.

J. FRIEDLAND, Secretary.

## New York.

NEW YORK CITY.—The regular meeting of the New York Socialist Literary Society was held on Thursday evening, with Comrade A. Bernstein in the chair. Two new members were initiated. Three delegates were elected to attend the conference of the United Hebrew Trades regarding the 1st of May parade. A committee of three were elected to draw up a plan to manage our literary exercises. A concert and lecture will take place in New Prospect Hall, 48-52 Orchard Street, on Sunday evening, April 18th, for the purpose of opening the campaign.

Lectures are held every Sunday afternoon in our club rooms, at 3 p. m. All are welcome.

NEW YORK CITY.—A special meeting of Branch 1 (American) was held at Webster Hall, on April 1, with Comrade Krichner in the chair. Comrade Malkiel, on behalf of the Committee on Reorganization, reported on the present condition of the branch and on the need for reorganization. Motions were adopted instructing the Secretary and Treasurer to settle all the debts of the branch, and to present a complete report on its financial condition at the special meeting, which is to take place on the first Friday in May, at 64 E. 4th Street. All members are expected to be present for the future of the branch is to be decided upon. A preliminary meeting will take place on the 3d Friday in April, at 64 East 4th Street.

The French Branch held its regular meeting at 479 6th Avenue. Comrade Dr. A. Letoquart was in the chair. Communications came in with fifty new subscriptions for the French weekly paper. Section Omaha sent \$1.25, which was received. It was resolved to have an agitation meeting on the 10th of May, at 479 6th Avenue, with Comrade L. Sanial as the lecturer. Our meetings are at the present every second and fourth Monday of the month. All the Comrades willing to agitate for the French weekly paper can have lists from the following Comrades: Dr. A. Letoquart, 81 Macdougall Street; G. Chagnon, 250 W. 38th Street; A. G. Gollerstepper, 433 E. 9th Street.

G. CHANGNON, Secretary.

Section Kings County.—The general meeting will be held on Sunday, April

18th, at 3 p. m., at Labor Lyceum. At this meeting important business will be transacted. Comrades must be on deck. F. GRUBE, Organizer.

JOHNSTOWN, April 12.—Comrade Carless addressed two very large and enthusiastic meetings in Fulton County last week—Friday in Gloversville and Saturday here in Johnstown. Not only did Carless prove his high efficiency as a speaker, but demonstrated the value of stereotyped lectures as a most satisfactory means of agitation. It is to be hoped that this form of propaganda may be extended, and repeated where already used. That the lecture made deep impressions on the audience could be seen by the hearty applause and the fact that since then Socialism is the topic of conversation wherever working men congregate. The Gloversville meeting was attended by about 250 persons in spite of a pouring rain, and Johnstown turned out to hear the new gospel at least 200 strong. We sold seven "Merrie Englands" and gained two new subscribers for THE PEOPLE and two for the "Vorwärts." Several others promised to order THE PEOPLE as soon as their means would allow them. In the meantime they would satisfy their curiosity to learn more about Socialism by coming in closer contact with the members of our Section. I am sure the day is not far distant when we will have a live and flourishing organization in this city. The Comrades are already discussing the probability of nominating a full county ticket next fall. This district is at present represented in Congress by the largest and most unscrupulous manufacturer of the county. In consideration of the servility and dependence of his voting cattle, he reduced the wages of his employees a few days after his election. Our Assemblyman is another manufacturer, famous for his love for his workers, which he shows by paying starvation wages. The working people in the glove and leather industry have for years been clamoring for a law to make weekly payment compulsory, for at present we are only paid once a month, a striking illustration of what our law-makers have done for us in the past! Do the workers expect to obtain any reform in this respect, not to speak of more important demands, by continuously voting for the very men whose interests are directly opposed to theirs—their bosses?

R. SCHWEMMER.

PARLIAMENTS OF LABOR.

Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance.

At the meeting of the G. E. B. member T. G. Metzloff was absent; A. Shapiro, chairman.

A committee of the Central Committee of the Clothing Workers' Trades Council requested information relative to the expulsion of the Knepants Makers' Union. They were informed that before the G. E. B. could act the said union would have to settle its trouble with D. A. No. 2, or appeal to the next convention. A letter from J. P. Tobin, president of the Int. Boot and Shoe Workers in answer to the complaint of D. A. No. 7 was read and referred to the said D. A.

A. Waldinger, as committee to the Prog. Clothing Cutters and Trimmers, and DeLeon, as committee to the Prog. Tailors' Union No. 1 reported that each had endorsed the resolution in favor of the "Abendblatt."

The secretary reported that a large majority had voted for F. W. Wilson as member to the G. E. B., and he was therefore declared elected.

Application for charters were granted to the Pioneer Alliance, Brooklyn, and Mixed Trades D. A., Philadelphia.

It was reported that the Shoe Workers of Philadelphia belonging to the Int. B. & S. W. U. had resolved that the said Int. B. & S. W. U. should join the S. T. & L. A.

As the vote for the place and date of the next convention shows a large majority for Boston, Mass., and Monday, July 5th, the same will be closed at the next meeting, and the call for the convention will then be issued.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 14th, at 64 E. 4th Street.

## D. A. No. 1.

(CENTRAL LABOR FEDERATION OF N. Y.)

D. B. Clayton, delegate of the Silver Workers' P. A., was chairman at last Sunday's meeting of the N. Y. Central Labor Federation (D. A. No. 1, S. T. & L. A.) and C. Amadi, delegate of the Furriers' Union, was vice-chairman.

A letter was received from the N. Y. Photo Engravers' Union No. 1 which urged the C. L. F. to use its influence with the Assemblymen and petition to frustrate the Elsworth Cartoon Bill. It was resolved to inform the union that such petitions are useless and appeals to politicians of no value. They should join the S. T. & L. A. and thus practically benefit their trade by the only means possible.

A committee representing the Bohemian Boss Butchers' Association was admitted, and discoursed upon the grievances between themselves and the Journeymen. After a thorough discussion of the pro and con it was resolved that the members of the Association should sign the present contract of the union, and that the Organization Committee be instructed to forthwith organize the German butchers. It having been announced that members of the Cigarmakers' Union do not patronize the union butcher shops, it was decided to notify them that if the union shops are neglected, then the blue label of the cigarmakers will no longer receive support.

A committee of D. A. No. 7, Shoe Workers, was granted the floor, and gave a history of its seven weeks' struggle with W. Lane, of Brooklyn. It was resolved to donate \$25 in support of the strikers, and to request all unions to make donations when the committee calls.

The delegates to the May conference reported that a letter was read from Int. Bakers' Union No. 92 which stated that if the Ind. Bakers' Union Branch 1 was represented, they would not be. It was resolved to instruct the delegates to vote against the Conference interfering in trade matters, as its purpose is solely and simply the arranging of the May demonstration. The Conference also decided to engage only music of the unions, represented in the S. T. & L. A.

Ale and Porter Union No. 1 tabled several communications of a political nature and voted against joint meetings of D. A. No. 1, 2, and 49.

Ind. Bakers' Branch 1 reported making good progress. The Executive

## PAINTERS.

The Amalgamated Painters and Decorators held their last meeting on April 12, in Maencher Hall, with the election of members for the several offices before them. The house was well filled. Seats seemed to be at a premium, and a good deal of standing room closely filled. The preliminaries gone through and twelve tellers being appointed to distribute, afterwards collect, count and make up the results. It was voted that a plurality vote shall decide in all cases instead of a majority ballot, and the distribution began, while no member was allowed to leave the room nor any one permitted to enter. After giving ample time to make the necessary choice, the ballots were collected, and 749 returned, and the committee began their tedious work on three different tables, each manned by four men.

The chairman stated that the next meeting of the organization would be held on Monday next, April 19, at Brevoort Hall, E. 54th Street, down town side, between 3d and Lexington avenues. A recess of one hour was declared to allow the tellers the necessary time; but it took until three o'clock a. m. before the returns were made up, which were then read by the chairman, as follows:

For President, David Callanan; Vice-President, James Culliver; Recording Secretary, John Olin; Financial Secretary, W. P. Western; Assistant Financial Secretary, John Corley; Treasurer, Charles Dentinger; Sergeant-at-Arms, William Munroe; Trustees, Chas. Luman, William Ferris, Louis Danziger; Delegates, John McAndrews, Edward Hanrahan, William P. Barry, Howard Balkam; Executive Council, John J. Corley, John Hallaway, C. E. Collenburg, Victor Buhr, Stafford B. Craig, W. S. Heck, Thomas Grady.

The names of the new officers were received with satisfaction. The greater number of members having left for home long before about 100 waited to see the end. C. E. COLLENBURG.

Board has adopted resolutions which set forth the attempts of the Int. Bakers' Union No. 92 and of the Int. Bakers' Union to injure and destroy their union. They tabled several political bills sent them by the C. L. F. and Am. Fed. of Labor. Delegates were elected to the May Conference.

Ind. Bakers' Union Branch 2 voted for a joint meeting of D. A. No. 1, 2, and 49. There is more trouble in boss Leopold's shop, he having bought out a bakery and now forces his men to work 16 hours per day. The label was refused. Relative to the May Conference the union decided to await the action of the C. L. F. A blow-out will be arranged for this summer.

United Upholsterers' Union elected new officers and delegates to the May Conference. A letter of the N. Y. Photo Engravers' Union No. 1 was endorsed. One member was fined \$25 because it worked in a scab shop.

Waiters' Alliance Liberty reported that two former members, Hans and Bauer, applied for re-admission. The former must pay a fine of \$15, the latter was rejected.

Furriers' Union elected a delegate to the S. T. & L. A. convention at Boston, Mass. Several political bills were referred to the C. L. F.

German Waiters' Union No. 1 reported electing officers Monday by the Australian ballot system. Delegates were elected to the May Conference. Contracts were signed with the following parks for this season and unions are urged to patronize the same: Fort Wendel, Cosmopolitan Park, Sulzer's Westchester Park, Schudler's Little Mount Morris Park, Urbach's Morrisania Park, Eiding's Casino, Noll's Schutzen Park, Brommer's Union Park, Manzel's Park (Fort Wadsworth), Behrle's Brewery Park (Stapleton, S. I.), Lion Park and Stimmel's Pavillion (White Stone, L. I.). Former Treasurer G. Herzberg wrote from Halifax that he sailed for Hamburg, Germany.

Empire City Lodge Machinists reported that a special meeting will be held on Wednesday at which a delegate will be elected to the S. T. & L. A. Convention and instructions given him. An agitation meeting is being arranged in Brooklyn which will result in the organizing of a Machinist Alliance for that city.

Int. Pianomakers' Union voted for a joint meeting of D. A. No. 1, 2, and 49, but the purpose to be only for agitation. Two shops will be organized this week.

Silver Workers' P. A. voted for a joint meeting of D. A. No. 1, 2, and 49, but no reports of unions are to be heard. Four members were admitted and three proposed. They gained some 20 members during the few past months.

United Journeymen Tailors' Union voted against a joint meeting of D. A. No. 1, 2, and 49.

Prog. Clothing Cutters and Trimmers. At the last session of the above union Br. Julius Frankel acted as chairman in the absence of the president.

The report of the Anniversary Committee was laid over to next meeting for action.

The delegates to the Clothing Council reported that the Tailors' Progressive Union will hold a mass meeting in the near future, the meeting held by the United Brotherhood of Tailors was disturbed by the fakirs. In the future steps will be taken to prevent this; a special meeting has been called by the Council for next week to vote on certain important matters, this report was accepted.

Delegates to D. A. 49 are requested to attend its sessions.

## THE SECRETARY.

Brotherhood of Carpenters.

Local Union No. 12, United Brotherhood of Carpenters, of Brooklyn (formerly United Framers), at their last general meeting, held on April 7th at the Brooklyn Labor Lyceum, elected the following officers: Chas. Fred, vice-president; John Wilson, recording secretary; Gus. Zeibig, conductor; Fred. Johnson, auditor. It was decided that hereafter we demand weekly payments, every man to be paid on the job at 5 o'clock on Saturdays to \$3.25 per day. Any boss who does not fulfill these demands will not get any of the members for work. Local Union No. 12 has 388 members and over \$400 funds in treasury. New members coming in every week. Bosses wishing framers or carpenters shall apply at any time at the Labor Bureau at the Labor Lyceum, 949-957 Willoughby Avenue. The weekly meetings are held on Wednesday evening, at 8 o'clock, at the Brooklyn Labor Lyceum.

JOHN WILSON, Sec'y.

## SECTION KINGS COUNTY, S. L. P.

Regular Quarterly Meeting

-TO BE HELD-

SUNDAY, April 17th, at 3 P. M.

-AT THE-

Brooklyn Labor Lyceum,

949-956 Willoughby Ave.

As this will be a very important meeting all comrades are urged to attend.

THE ORGANIZER.

## Trades and Societies Calendar.

Standing advertisements of Trades Unions and other Societies (not exceeding five lines) will be inserted under this heading hereafter at the rate of \$2.00 per annum. Organizations should not lose such an opportunity of advertising their place of meetings.

Branch 1 (American) S. L. P. Discussion meeting every first Friday. Business meeting every 2nd and Friday at 64 East 4th St., between 3d and 5th St. at 8 P. M. at Stuyvesant Hall, 17th St., and Hudson Building, 37th St. and 8th Ave. 218

Carl Sahn Club (Musicians Union). Meetings every Tuesday at 10 a. m., at 64 East 4th Street, New York Labor Lyceum. Business Secretary: Fred. 263

Central Labor Federation of New York (S. T. & L. A., D. A. No. 1). Meets at 2:30 every Sunday afternoon at 64 East 4th St., New York City. All bona fide trades and labor unions should be represented. Communications are to be sent to the corresponding Secretary, Ernest Bohm, 64 East 4th Street, New York City. 269

Cigarmakers' Progressive International Union No. 90. Office and Employment Bureau, 64 East 4th Street, District 1 (Hoboken, N. J.). Meets every Saturday at 8 p. m. District II (Jersey City, at 213 Forsyth St., meets every Saturday at 8 p. m. District III, meets at 125 Avenue A, every Saturday at 8 p. m. District IV, meets at 322 West 125th Street, every Saturday at 8 p. m. The Board of Supervisors meets every Tuesday at 1422 2nd Avenue, at 8 p. m. 26

Empire City Lodge (Machinists). Meets every Wednesday evening at the Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th Street. Secretary: HENRY ZINCK. 273

German Waiters' Union of New York. Office: 355 Bowery. Union Hall, 1st floor, between 3d and 4th St. Meets every Friday at 8 o'clock. Meets at 64 East 4th Street at 4 p. m. at the same hall. 284

Musical Protective Alliance No. 1069, D. A. No. 3, S. T. & L. A. Headquarters 79 E. 4th Street. Meetings every Friday at 12 o'clock noon. Fred. Hartmann, Pres.; Fred. Wolf, corr. Sec'y. Residence, 13 E. 4th St. 241

Section Essex County, S. L. P., meets the first Sunday in each month at 3 p. m. in the hall of "Essex County Socialist Club," 76 Springfield Ave., Newark, N. J. 189

Skandinavian Section, S. L. P. Meets 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month at 10 o'clock a. m., at Schuler's Hall, 251-253 East 5th St., New York City. Subscription orders taken for the Scandinavian Socialist Weekly, SCAND. ARBEIDERTIDEN. 189

Socialist Science Club. Meets at Webster Hall, 1